

SIERRA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
MEMBER NEWSLETTER August, 2015
(575) 744-5231 www.sierraelectric.org



John Bokich,
President, Board of Trustees

President's Pen

Sierra Electric Cooperative (SEC) is continually investing in upgrades to service offerings, equipment, training and development of your employees, and in your Co-op facility, to ensure reliable, affordable, safe and sustainable electric service to you, the Members.

You may have noticed recently as you have driven by, or stopped in at the SEC office at 610 Butte Blvd. in Elephant Butte, that there are changes to how your Co-op office looks. Late last year we installed some vinyl shielding material to improve the appearance of your property from the street view in cooperation with the City of Elephant Butte in an overall effort to improve the general appearance of Butte Blvd. Unfortunately, the chain link fencing was more than 30 years old, and had not been constructed to withstand the extra force from the wind due to the shielding resulting in the fence posts coming loose from their foundations causing the fence to fall.

We have had the north fence posts replaced, and installed at closer intervals with larger concrete anchoring to prevent that from happening again. The Board of Trustees approved replacement of the east fence with a "weathering steel" fence and a wider electric gate to allow more efficient and safer access for Co-op trucks, vehicles, and trucks delivering large items, such as power poles, to our shop yard.

We are committed to ensuring that your SEC office is safe, and that it represents a positive influence on how our business community in Elephant Butte and Sierra County is presented. We have other projects planned for later this year and in coming years, which we will do on the basis of need and financial condition, which is good at this time.

We hope that you will all approve of this and other upgrades to your facility, which are consistent with our goal of being a leading representative of the business community in Sierra County, as well as providing sustainable, affordable and dependable electric service to all of our members.

If you ever have questions or comments about Sierra Electric Cooperative, please contact Jimmy Capps, General Manager jcapps@secpower.com, or me John Bokich johnbokich@secpower.com.

SEC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.
YOUR TOUCHSTONE ENERGY® COOPERATIVE



SEC Offers Net Metering for Members with Renewable Generation

While SEC has offered Net Metering to its members that have renewable generation – solar panels, wind turbines - at their homes or businesses since 2008, we thought we would remind the membership of its availability. For those not familiar with the term “Net Metering” it is the process by which member-owned renewable generation is measured. SEC provides a special meter which rolls forward when the member consumes power from the grid – from SEC - and rolls backwards when the member exports power to the grid – back to SEC. This allows those with self-generation to reduce their consumption of power from SEC and to be compensated for the energy they produce.

If the member **uses** more energy over the course of the billing period than they have generated, they only pay for the “net” energy they have received from the grid – from SEC - plus any fixed monthly charges as provided by the applicable rate schedule.

If however, the member **generates** more energy during the billing period than they consume, SEC will pay the member for this excess energy at the “avoided cost of power” rate – which is the cost to generate the power we buy from our wholesale supplier Tri-State G&T.

If, at the end of the billing period, the member has generated more power than they consume, the monetary credit is carried forward on their electric bill to help offset future billings. If this billing credit continues to grow and it reaches \$50, SEC will issue a check to the member for this power produced and delivered to SEC. If you are interested in more details about how you can become a “Net Metering” customer, call our office and we will send out an information package.

“NEW”

The Biggest Thing since the Light Bulb

Sierra Electric now has Cree LED light bulbs. Cree LED light bulbs work about everywhere you’d use a standard A-type bulb. Just screw them in, turn on and start saving money. Cree LED bulbs are built to last, and they’re covered by Cree’s industry leading 10-year warranty, so you can be sure the savings will last too.

Finding an affordable LED bulb that looks and lights like an incandescent can be a challenge. There are weird shapes, bulky sizes and most carry a hefty price tag. Cree LED bulbs look and light like an incandescent, while using up to 85% less energy and lasting 25 times longer. Cree LED Bulbs are designed and built in the USA, and are now available at Sierra Electric Co-op.

Prices for LED Bulbs:

60 WATT (9 watts)	\$5.00	65 WATT FLOOD (9.5 watts)	\$8.00
60 W-DAYLIGHT (9watts)	\$5.00	65 WATT DAYLIGHT	
100 WATT (18 watts)	\$10.00	FLOOD (9.5 watts)	\$ 8.00
100 W-DAYLIGHT (18 watts)	\$10.00		

