

SIERRA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



MEMBER NEWSLETTER

November 2016

75 Years of Providing High Quality, Reliable Electric Service to Members in Sierra County, and areas of Luna, Socorro, and Catron Counties



Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy,
and change ordinary opportunities into blessings. ~ William Arthur Ward



A Message from the General Manager to the Members



I would like to take this opportunity to reach out to Sierra Electric members who live and work in the areas of Mims, Engle, Cutter, Elephant Butte, Cuchillo, Monticello, Placitas, Winston, Chloride and Poverty Creek and explain the cause of the outage that occurred on the afternoon of Monday, November 7th.

Tri-State, our power supplier, had an equipment failure in the Cuchillo Substation, which caused the loss of power at 2:21 p.m. We were able to restore a majority of members at 4:10 p.m. The remaining members, located in our Northern service area, such as Rock Canyon, Cuchillo, Placitas, Monticello, Winston, Chloride and Poverty Creek, were restored by 7:28 p.m.

My intent is not to point the finger at Tri-State, but to inform our members that although it was Tri-State's equipment that failed in this particular outage, it is a given that all utilities will—and do—experience power outages caused by equipment failures in spite of many years of engineering, maintenance and equipment upgrades. I believe that an immeasurable amount of outages have been avoided because of our dedication to detailed planning, maintenance and the many dollars invested to keep our system in peak operating condition.

I know that sharing this with you does not lessen the impact that the lack of power or interruption of power has on each of you in your daily life. Every day we strive towards our goal to provide safe, reliable electric service and take very seriously our commitment to provide services that benefit all of our members. We appreciate the patience and thanks that many of you expressed during this outage. We know many of you understand we are doing our best and we are grateful for your continued support.

If you have questions or concerns, call me at 575-744-5231. Thank you.

Jimmy Capps, General Manager

Did you know?

According to the CDC, if the power is out for less than 4 hours, then the food in your refrigerator and freezer will be safe to consume. Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible. A freezer that is half full will hold food safely for up to 24 hours. A full freezer will hold food safely for 48 hours. After the outage, throw away any food that has a temperature of more than 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Stay Connected!

In the utility business, sometimes power outages simply can't be avoided. If we don't have the correct phone number linked to your account, it makes it much more difficult for us to contact you to relay important information about planned power outages.



Sierra Electric Cooperative, Inc. does not share our member's personal information with any outside source; your information is confidential and secure.

There are several ways that you can update your contact information, including:

- ◆ Call the office during business hours
- ◆ Write the update on your payment stub when you mail your payment
- ◆ Email us at sierra@secpower.com
- ◆ Login to the SmartHub online account access application on www.sierraelectric.org or download the app for your smart phone and select the Contact Us menu item,

Thank you for your support and cooperation!

Average Daily Cost of Electricity – Residential

Sierra Electric

\$2.50

United States

\$3.80

How does Electricity compare?



INTERNET
\$2.00

CELL PHONE

\$2.43



CABLE
\$3.30



The Value of Electricity

Powering your home!

Green Chile Stuffing

(courtesy of Gourmet Magazine, Nov. 1992) Serves 8-10

Ingredients

- 2 cups finely chopped onions
- 2 cups finely chopped celery
- 8 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 (4 ounce) cans chopped mild green chilies (incl. juice)
- 2 pickled jalapeno peppers, minced (about 1 tablespoon, to taste)
- 3/4 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme, crumbled
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano, crumbled
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cumin
- salt and ground black pepper, to taste
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans, toasted lightly
- 1 lb white bread (cut into 1/2-inch cubes, toasted and cooled)
- 3/4 cup low sodium chicken broth (omit chicken broth if using to stuff a turkey)
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into small pieces (omit if using to stuff a turkey)



Directions

1. In a large skilled, cook the onion and celery in 8 T butter over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until softened and light golden. Add the green chilies with the juice, the jalapenos, chili powder, thyme, oregano, cumin and salt and pepper to taste. Cook the mixture, stirring, for 3 minutes.
2. Transfer the mixture to a large bowl, add the pecans, toasted bread cubes, and salt and pepper to taste. Combine the stuffing gently but thoroughly.
3. Note: if using to stuff a turkey, cool completely before stuffing the turkey.
4. Baking: Preheat oven to 325°F Spoon the stuffing into a buttered 3- to 4- quart casserole, drizzle it with the broth and dot the top with the additional 2 T butter. Bake the stuffing, covered, in the middle of the oven for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake 30 minutes more.

**The Sierra Electric office will be closed
November 24th & November 25th to celebrate
the Thanksgiving Holiday.**

**Happy
Thanksgiving**

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Tip of the Month

Electric bills increase during the winter for a variety of reasons—holiday gatherings, houseguests, and shorter days and longer nights. Small measures, like turning down your thermostat, replacing incandescent bulbs with LEDs and washing clothes in cold water can help control energy costs.

Source: TogetherWeSave.com

