



Your monthly report from Your Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.

SEC linemen are shown here replacing an underground transformer for a Member.

Power Supply for SEC Transitions with Tri-State's Responsible Energy Plan

According to the Edison Institute, the demand for electricity dropped to a 16 year low during the first week of April as businesses closed their doors and manufacturing slowed or stopped as COVID-19 spread across the land. These actions, combined with mild weather, lowered heating demands and caused total electric energy output to drop 5.7% compared to the same week in April of 2019. Lower sales have been experienced by SEC as well with our year-to-date energy sales through April down almost 3% from 2019. These impacts resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic could in no way be anticipated by utilities last year, much less 20-30 years ago when forecasted power requirements prompted the design and construction of additional long-term generating plants. This reduced electricity consumption changes the economic models for cost recovery of these power plants.

Changes in technology, government incentives, and public opinion have changed the electric utility industry in the past 10-20 years. Consumer energy needs have shifted with more efficient appliances and heating and cooling equipment, changing lifestyles and an increased consumer desire for electricity from power plants with lower carbon emissions. Many are opting to generate at least a portion of their own energy from solar panels on their roof.

Despite these contributing factors, disruptions in supply chains, and even increased cybersecurity threats, the electric grid in our nation continues to deliver electricity reliably and safely. Our own wholesale supplier, Tri-State G&T, is an integral part of this national power grid serving over 1 million end-use customers in four western states. In January of this year, Tri-State announced their Responsible Energy Plan (REP) that will incorporate more renewables without sacrificing all-important reliability, while retiring coal power plants in Colorado and New Mexico. This move will eliminate all Tri-State's coal emissions in New Mexico by the end of this year and in Colorado by 2030.

With reliability as their number one goal for their Members, Tri-State is making decisive moves to incorporate the increasing popular renewable sources of solar and wind into their fleet of generation assets. True, much of this is driven by public opinion and regulatory mandates but these lowest-cost power plants help with rate stabilization. One of the goals of the REP is to maintain current rates or lower them for the foreseeable future. Tri-State has not changed their wholesale rate to SEC in the past four years.

This REP resulted from requests to Tri-State by its Members desiring a detailed, forward-thinking plan to transition toward a renewably powered future. While Tri-State faced criticism from

stakeholders, both internal and external, the more than one year dedication to this well-thought out and detailed plan was adopted by its Members and recognized as a model for other G&T's by the Rocky Mountain Institute in their recent case study of the REP stating that "Tri-State's REP stands out" for clean energy progress amongst cooperative utilities. Scan this QR code for RMI's Case Study on the REP.



Your
**SOCORRO ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Spotlight on TEAM SEC - Meet our Staff, Your Neighbor

Ruth "Anita" Nuanez began working at SEC in October 2017 as a Member Services Representative (MSR). The MSR position at SEC requires an individual to be multi-talented, a quick learner and able to multi-task phone calls, computers, and paperwork all while keeping a smile and pleasant attitude. Anita certainly displays these qualities as she offers assistance to the many SEC Members, including those speaking Spanish.

While Anita was born in Belen, she has lived all of her life in Socorro County, attending her K-12 school years at Socorro and graduating from Socorro High School. Prior to working for SEC, Anita worked at the local Econo Lodge Motel and she spent 12 years with the Nusenda Credit Union. She indicates the stability and benefits offered to SEC employees attracted her to apply for this position.

Anita feels the family atmosphere at SEC, plus being able to help Members in getting electric service for their families makes her job enjoyable. Anita enjoys spending time with her children, grandchildren and has recently taken up crocheting as a hobby. We appreciate Anita's pleasant personality and her tenacity in helping to keep the lights on!



Ruth Anita Nuanez
Member Services Representative

CONTACT US

WEBSITE

www.socorroelectric.com

PHONE

800-351-7575 or 575-835-0560

PAYING YOUR BILL

You can make your payment over the phone by check or major credit card, 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week with our IVR phone system at no charge.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

REPORTING AN OUTAGE

Before reporting a power outage, please check the circuit breakers in your house first. If you still do not have power after checking your breakers, please call **(575) 835-0560, (800) 351-7575 or 855-881-8159**.

If you get a busy signal, it is an indication that someone else is experiencing an outage as well; however please continue to call, this will help us pinpoint the problem.

MEMBER SERVICE/BILLING

Marilyn Madrid - Member Service Supervisor
575-835-0560 Ext 1504

ACCOUNTING

Rauni Montoya - Accounting Supervisor
575-835-0560 Ext 2502

LINE EXTENSIONS

Bill Harris - Staking Technician
575-835-0560 Ext 2503

MARKETING & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jimmy Capps - Director of Communications & Public Affairs - 575-838-9724
jcapps@socorroelectric.com

May 2020 Board Report - the Board met via teleconference....

- approved resolution for RUS loan to fund current Construction Work Plan.
- set tentative date for 2021 Annual Members Meeting for April 10, 2021.
- set the next Board Meeting for June 24, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

SEC Foundation Announces 2020 Recipients for Tri-State and Basin Scholarships

SEC is proud to announce the 2020 winners of the Tri-State Generation & Transmission Cooperative and the Basin Electric Power Cooperative scholarships. Tri-State is SEC's wholesale power provider, with SEC and Tri-State both members of Basin Electric.

Both of these Generation and Transmission Cooperatives provide annual scholarships to students in our service area. We appreciate their support of our local youth in continuing their education!

Tri-State G&T Scholarship Winners

<i>Siera Bradford</i>	<i>Quemado High School</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Brittney Essomba</i>	<i>Socorro High School</i>	<i>\$500</i>

Basin G&T Scholarship Winner

<i>Takayla Montoya</i>	<i>Socorro High School</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
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RENEWABLE ENERGY PURCHASES

In 2019, the Socorro Electric Cooperative purchased 444,277 kWh of renewable energy. The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Rule 17.9.572.23(k), requires the cooperative to report to the Membership annually on renewable energy purchased on behalf of our Members. Renewable Energy means electric energy generated by means of a low or zero emissions generation technology with substantial long-term production potential and generated by use of renewable energy resources that may include solar, wind, or hydropower resources.