

# Support Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s, Opportunity to Provide BROADBAND SERVICE!

If you are suffering from slow internet speeds and unable to stream video on your television, Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc., will be working to solve this problem by making available to you the internet speeds you need for your home or business.

JMEC's board of trustees has approved the start of this project which will offer true, high-speed internet with Fiber to the Premises (FTTP, which means internet fiber run directly to your home or place of business) in our territory. Your electric cooperative conducted a feasibility study this year that showed JMEC can make it cost effective to offer internet speeds to subscribers of 100 MB down and 20 MB up.

That said, there is significant grant funding available from the state of New Mexico and the federal government to build out the internet infrastructure which would help JMEC carry out this project efficiently.

## This is Where JMEC Needs Your Help!

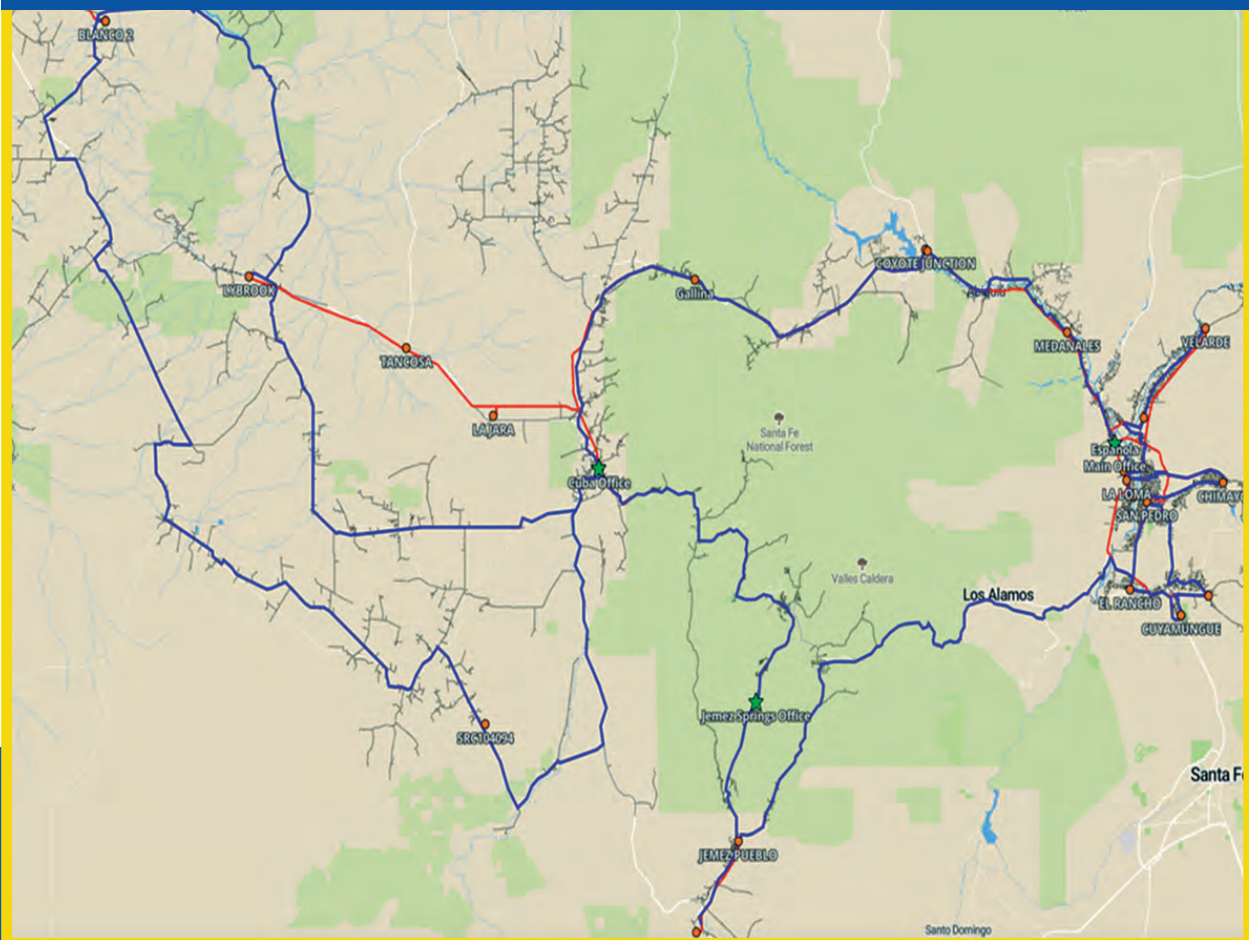
Part of the submissions for grant funds is letters of support from community members, businesses and organizations that will be included as part of the grant application.

When the state and federal grant reviewers see that the JMEC community is hugely supportive of our organization requesting the grants, it helps them know that the money will be well spent on the project submitted.

## THE DEADLINE FOR SUPPORT LETTERS IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022.

*Your board of trustees is excited about helping our members meet this critical need. Most of the JMEC territory will have access to fiber that can come to each subscriber's home and business.* We may initially offer wireless in some sections of the service area while we work to install fiber to homes in the area.

Map of Planned JMEC Broadband Backbone (Blue Line)



# JMEC's - Opportunity to Provide Broadband Service

The 1936 Rural Electrification Act ushered in the formation of rural electric cooperatives that stepped up to provide electricity to these communities that were, and continue to be, ignored by for-profit utilities. During the formation of one electric cooperative a farmer commented that after the love of God in your heart, the next greatest thing is electricity in your home. There are many people across this great nation who say today that broadband is almost as important now as electricity was to that farmer then. Currently, more than 200 rural electric cooperatives are working to deliver broadband communications service where for-profit providers say they can't make enough money to do so. JMEC's board of trustees is determined to join those 200-some pioneering cooperatives and bring broadband services to the residents of northern New Mexico.

JMEC has selected an engineering firm that will design our fiber system and the equipment to control the network and are finishing the contracts to begin the work. We should be stringing fiber about the end of 2022 with expectations to be complete by 2028.

**JMEC's high-speed internet program would be operated as a separate business, a division of the cooperative. Under New Mexico law, Cooperatives can not subsidize the broadband business with revenues from the electric business.**

Some of the benefits of this level of broadband service include telemedicine, job search, online education, streaming television programs in lieu of satellite, audio/video conferencing and video games. As demand for instantaneous data increases, we find that there may be multiple users in the same household streaming data simultaneously which requires a high-speed internet connection.

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**If you would like to help JMEC with its grant applications for broadband funding, please write and sign a short letter to your cooperative that talks about the challenges you have without any, or adequate, internet service and how JMEC providing high-speed internet would help you.**

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**DROP LETTER OFF AT:**

**Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Attn: Tomas Barela  
19365 S.R. 84/285  
Hernandez, NM 87537**

**OR EMAIL LETTER TO:** [tbarela@jemezcoop.org](mailto:tbarela@jemezcoop.org)

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**THANK YOU, AS ALWAYS, FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



**Jemez Mountains Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**Española Office:** 19365 S.R. 84/285, Hernandez NM 87537 / Phone: 505-753-2105 / Toll Free: 1-888-755-2105

**Jemez Springs Office:** 17421 Hwy 4, Jemez Springs NM 87025 / Phone: 575-829-3550 / Toll Free: 1-888-755-2105

**Cuba Office:** #71 Hwy 126, Cuba NM 87013 / Phone: 575-289-3241 / Toll Free: 1-888-755-2105

**[www.jemezcoop.org](http://www.jemezcoop.org)**