



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Board of Trustees

President, Dennis Trujillo
District 1 - Jemez Springs, Jemez Pueblo, Zia Pueblo, Surrounding areas

Vice President, Manuel Bustos
District 5 - La Mesilla, San Pedro & north up to Alcalde

Secretary, John Ramon Vigil
District 4 - Santa Clara Pueblo north to Medanales including Lyden & La Canova west of the Rio Grande River

Treasurer, Dolores G. McCoy
District 2 - Cuba, surrounding areas in Sandoval, McKinley & San Juan Counties

Asst. Secretary/Treasurer Stanley Crawford, District 5 - Velarde, Dixon & other areas located in Rio Arriba County east of the Rio Grande River

Dennis Gallegos, District 3 - Abiquiu & the Cañones, Coyote, Gallina, Llaves & Lindrieth areas

Lucas Cordova, Jr., District 4 - Chili, Chamita & other areas from Santa Clara Pueblo north to Medanales including Lyden & La Canova west of the Rio Grande River

Elias Coriz, District 5 - Chimayo & all other areas in Rio Arriba County east of the Rio Grande River

Marcelina Martinez, District 6 - Santa Cruz & surrounding areas located in Santa Fe County

Bruce Duran, District 6 - Nambe, Pojoaque, surrounding areas located in Santa Fe County

Marissa Maestas-Muller, Trustee-At-Large - represents the entire cooperative area at large

Building on a Strong 2022 for 2023 – Our 75th Anniversary Year

The amazing support of our members, hard work of our staff and dedicated leadership of our board of trustees helped us successfully navigate a ton of very important, challenging tasks in 2022 – thank you!

Some things were completed – like the huge effort in hosting six Special District Meetings in order to attract the number of members needed to attend, register and vote to pass needed updates to three bylaws. That was amazing! Now, we need to do what is necessary to make sure we attract members in numbers that meet our new, lower quorum requirement to our next annual meeting in August so that needed bylaw updates can continue. We had not achieved quorum for a member vote to occur for nearly 30 years. It felt good to return the power of the vote to our members!

We completed a needed forensic audit. We rejoined the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association bringing essential safety training and other program resources to our staff. We launched an initiative to bring high-speed internet service to our members. We completed a State of The Cooperative assessment which included a road map of what needs to be done from safety to HR to power infrastructure. That work is well underway. We completed agreements with our neighboring pueblos, initiated a review of our wholesale power contract so that we can increase renewable solar offerings to members and we made our case for the first rate change in 10 years.

We are proud of all that has been accomplished so far and know that this year, our 75th anniversary year, we will build on a strong foundation for our future.

A 75th Anniversary Snapshot!

Our cooperative officially became known as the Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative in 1948. In 1947, Fred Abousleman and his brothers installed a small generating plant on the Jemez River to provide themselves and a couple neighbors with electricity. Called to serve during World War II, the brothers returned home to find the old hydropower generator in disrepair.

After approaching the Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), Abousleman learned that larger urban power suppliers didn't want to invest in a few outlying rural customers. About the same time, J. Antonio Montoya of San Ysidro was meeting with representatives of the Continental Divide Electric Co-op in Grants to see about extending electric service to the Jemez area, but the plan was getting nowhere.

Montoya, Abousleman, interested citizens from Cuba and outlying areas eventually met to make plans for their own cooperative. Incorporated on April 22, 1948, they hired an engineer to draw up plans, a line crew to begin installation of the poles and lines and secured a REA loan for \$930,000, most of which went to purchase the Inland Utility Company which had been serving the Española area. JMEC members were then, and still are, charged \$5 for membership.

Today, Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc. has grown to be the largest cooperative in the state.



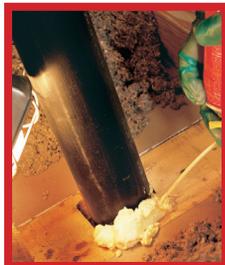
Keep Warm and Save Energy Costs This Winter



There are several low-cost, DIY energy efficiency tasks most anyone can do to keep your home warmer and save on energy costs this winter. See which of these would work best for you:

- **Feel a draft coming through your switch plates on exterior walls? Consider outlet sealers available at your local hardware store. They slip into place behind the faceplate of the outlet, reducing draft and heat loss.**
- **Draft door stoppers come in a variety of formats, all easy to customize to your exterior doors.**
- **Seal leaks inside your house. While exterior caulking can keep out water, working inside makes your house more energy efficient. Seal attic air leaks and spray expanding foam in basement leaks such as around cables coming into the house.**

Find out if your home is eligible for the NM Energy Smart Weatherization Program, a U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE) program administered on the local level. The DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes. To learn more, Northern New Mexico residents can call the Central New Mexico Housing Corporation at 505.345.4949 or go to www.centralnmhousing.org.



Home Electrical Safety - Safety is Smart, Prevention is Power!

Safe home electrical practices are especially important in the winter months. Our friends at ESFI (Electrical Safety Foundation International) report that nearly one-third of the 53,000 home electrical fires that occur each year happen during the winter months. Most can be avoided with more awareness and understanding of simple safety precautions. Here are some of the tips shared by ESFI:

- **Smoke Alarm:** Have a working smoke alarm on each level of your house, check them monthly by pushing the TEST button on the alarm and replace the batteries every year.
- **Space Heater:** Keep it on a level surface, in a dry space, at least three feet away from anything that can burn. Plug it directly into an outlet (do not use it with a power strip or extension cord) and unplug it when not in use.

- **Generator:** Never operate a generator inside your home or in other enclosed or partially enclosed spaces, including the garage.
- **Extension Cords:** Extension cords are a common cause of home fires. If you're using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home.
- **Overloaded Electrical System. Learn the warning signs:**



Frequent tripping of circuit breakers or blowing of fuses

Dimming of lights when other devices are turned on

Buzzing sound from switches or outlets

Discolored outlets

Appliances that seem underpowered