

SANGRE DE CRISTO ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Outlet

MARCH 2022



MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 2013
Buena Vista, CO 81211-2013



STREET ADDRESS

29780 North U.S. Highway 24
Buena Vista, CO 81211



ph 719-395-2412
tf 844-395-2412
email info@myelectric.coop
web myelectric.coop



Facebook.com/SDCEA.Inc
Twitter: @SDCEA_Inc

Your community electric service provider.



Annual Meeting Notice

SDCEA's annual meeting will be held on June 9, 2022, at The Barn at Howard Creek Farm, Howard.



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT MONTHLY UPDATE

A crew from Integrity Tree Service, SDCEA's vegetation management contractor, will continue work in the Cotopaxi and Texas Creek areas in March.

All electric services from the Howard substation are scheduled for vegetation management. It is possible a crew or crews will move to other areas served by the Howard substation as time and weather permit.

If you have questions about the program, please visit SDCEA's Wildfire Mitigation and Vegetation Management page at myelectric.coop/Safety/Vegetation-Management.

If you have further questions, please contact our office at 719-395-2412 or toll-free, 844-395-2412.



HAVE A QUESTION about something to do with SDCEA?

Give our office a call at 719-395-2412 or toll-free at 844-395-2412. Our business office in Buena Vista is open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m Monday through Friday, closed on major holidays. Or, send an email with your question to info@myelectric.coop.



CREATE ONLINE ACCOUNT FOR SDCEA INFORMATION

SDCEA posts association bylaws, policies, rate restructure information, rate schedules, board meeting information, annual reports, board contacts and more for members to access at any time.

To view these items, create an account on our website at myelectric.coop. You can do that by clicking on the Register for Online Access option below the Login prompt on the left side of the page.

Once on the landing page (SmartHub), if you would like to view rates, policies and rate information, go to the My Profile menu item on the top and select My Documents from the drop-down menu. You will be presented with several options there.

On the left side of the landing page is a menu that can provide you with other options. The Members Only link provides meeting minutes, board contacts and other information.

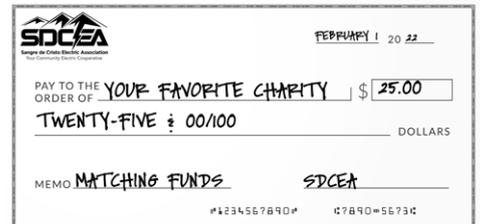
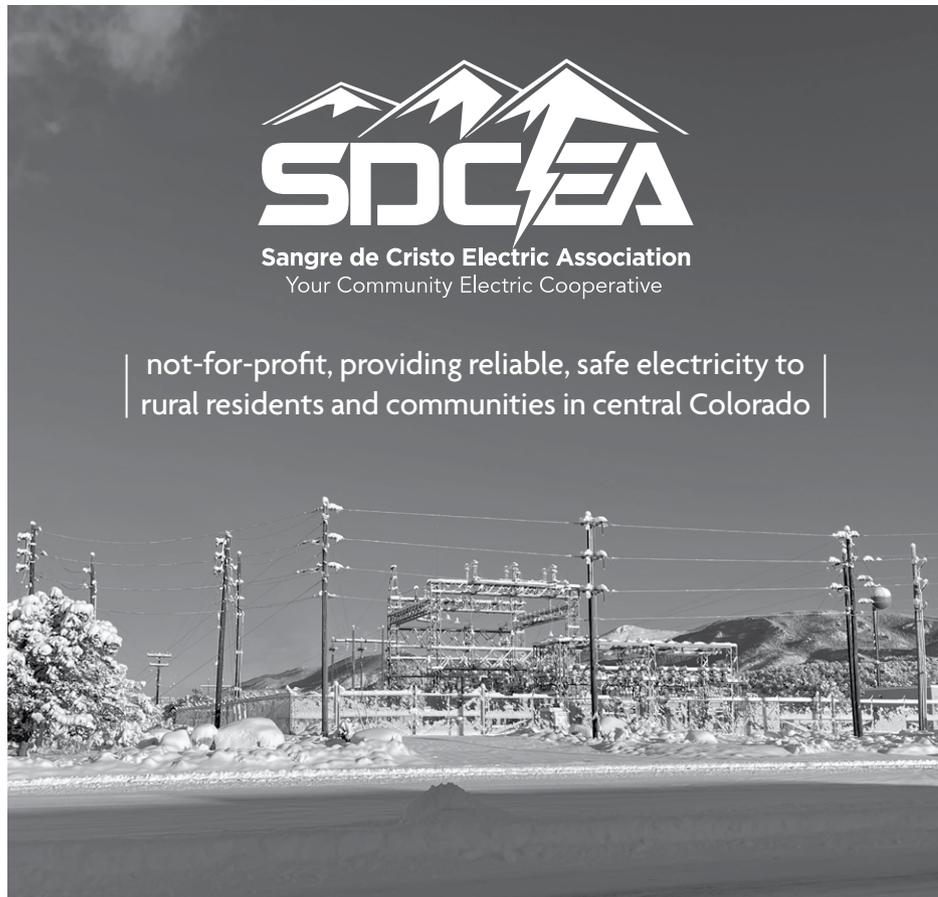
If you have further questions, please contact our office at 719-395-2412.

RATE RESTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE

At its monthly meeting on October 27, 2021, the SDCEA Board of Directors approved a revenue-neutral rate restructuring with a February 1, 2022 implementation date. At its monthly meeting on January 26, 2022, the board voted to delay implementation until April 1, 2022.

The proposed and present rate restructure provisions are available for examination and explanation at our offices in Buena Vista, on our website myelectric.coop under the Read More News link on the home page, in the legal notification section of local newspapers, or by calling Sangre de Cristo Electric Association, 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, closed major holidays.

Anyone who desires to comment about the proposed changes may file in writing with Sangre de Cristo Electric Association at P. O. Box 2013, Buena Vista, Colorado 81211 or email info@myelectric.coop.



MATCHING GRANT

It's a new year, so a reminder: If you are a member (named account holder) of SDCEA, and you support charitable, civic and educational organizations through financial contributions, SDCEA will match up to \$200 of your donation to qualifying organizations, based on the criteria outlined on our website, myelectric.coop/community/matching-grant-program.

Donations must be made in the calendar year in which you are submitting the request (2022) to be considered for the matching grant program. Funds for the matching grant program are available until expended.

ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR ELECTION NOTICE

Sanjiv de Cristo Electric Association Board of Directors set June 9, 2022, for the cooperative's 82nd annual meeting at The Barn at Howard Creek Farm, Howard.

Members of the cooperative will act on financial data for the year 2021 and consider any other business that may become before the meeting.

DIRECTOR SEATS

Fremont County incumbent director Geoff Gerke and Custer County incumbent director Tom Flower are running for reelection.

Elections will be held by mail vote separately from the annual meeting. If a board seat is uncontested, an election may not be necessary. In the event of a contested election, the ballot receipt due date will be June 2, 2022. The election date has been set for June 6, 2022. Date of record is April 7, 2022.

All director candidates are nominated by petition. Fifteen or more current members of the cooperative must sign each nomination petition. Any member interested in running for a director seat should review the following guidelines. If you are interested in running for a board seat, please contact us at 844-395-2412 or info@myelectric.coop. Members must reside within the director's district to be considered for nomination.

Nomination petitions, candidate biographies and financial disclosure forms are due by **5 p.m. Thursday, April 7, 2022.**

CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

Directors of rural electric cooperatives establish policy and provide leadership in a complex, technical and ever-changing industry. They do not deal with day-to-day operations of the cooperative and do not work in the cooperative office on a daily basis. Directors attend a minimum of one board meeting per month and may attend other meetings or training programs held outside SDCEA's service territory or out of state. In addition, rural electric directors spend a considerable amount of time reading co-op and industry material and maintaining a current knowledge of industry trends. Consider the following qualifications and responsibilities when choosing a member for nomination or when deciding to run for a director position.

QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for directorship, a person shall:

- Be a member of the cooperative or an individual authorized by an entity member;
- Be a resident of the designated director district;
- Have the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts; and
- Disclose all monetary and in-kind contributions and expenditures directly or indirectly to or from his/her campaign for election to the board.

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a director who:

- Has failed to report all monetary and in-kind contributions and/or expenditures.
- Has been convicted of, is pleading guilty to, or had pleaded guilty to a felony.
- Is or has been within the five years preceding June 6, 2022:

- › Employed by SDCEA or the spouse of an employee.
- › Employed by or has a significant financial interest in a business that sells or provides commodities, products or services to the cooperative.
- › Employed by or a full or partial owner of an electric or natural gas utility, a propane company or a renewable/alternative energy company, or has a significant financial interest in an entity that regularly competes with SDCEA or any entity that the cooperative controls or in which it has a substantial interest.

Directors serve without salary but may be allowed fair remuneration for their time actually spent in the service of the cooperative as directors, consistent with rural electric cooperative practice. Candidates should agree to serve the entire term of office for which they are elected. The position of director shall not be used to further any political ambition, and directors must be capable of representing the entire membership on an impartial basis.

RESPONSIBILITIES

A director must be willing to:

- Promote and safeguard the interests of the cooperative;
- Expend the effort necessary to understand the cooperative's problems and provide the needed judgment to reach decisions in constantly changing circumstances;
- Support all official decisions and actions made or taken by the board;
- Study information in reports submitted to the board;
- Contribute to the development of statements on board functions and responsibilities and work toward their constant improvement;
- Objectively evaluate and consider the questions and problems which face the cooperative;
- Stay informed of the cooperative's ideals and objectives, and study and analyze the policies, plans, and problems which result from efforts to achieve those ideals and objectives;
- Keep informed on and aware of the attitudes of members, employees, and the general public toward the cooperative's objectives and policies;
- Inform all interested persons about the cooperative's ideals, objectives, programs, and services; and
- Attend classes to attain National Rural Electric Cooperative Association director certification within the first full three-year term of office and work toward NRECA board leadership certification within the second or third term.

PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS

A director candidate should display the following personal qualifications:

- Good business record and possession of sound business judgment;
- Demonstrated capacity for leadership and reputation for honesty and good judgment;
- Demonstrated capacity for working with others; and
- Ideals and objectives compatible with cooperative philosophy and principles.

SDCEA EQUIPMENT ACCESS REQUIREMENT



SDCEA requires that open access to the meter, meter loop, main circuit breaker and associated equipment must be maintained at all times to allow the service to be disconnected at the emergency request of fire departments or other legal authorities.

Access must also be available for SDCEA personnel to permit servicing, meter reading, meter changes, main breaker replacement and other such activities.

Crews generally try to make contact with property owners when they will be on site, but that is not always possible if the property owner is not on site, there is no cellphone service, or if the crew is responding to an outage or emergency situation. If a crew or technician from SDCEA or our contractors cannot access an easement or electric equipment on a property due to a locked gate code, it is possible that service to that site will be disconnected and the crew will move on to service or make repairs elsewhere on the system until a code is supplied to our office.

The full policy on access is Board Policy (No. C-15) and is available to members on our website for review at myelectric.coop.

DISCONNECT INFORMATION



SDCEA consumers receive their current (and if applicable, past due) bill at the beginning of each month. When an account is past due at SDCEA, consumers receive a written reminder/potential disconnect notice in the mail. If a bill remains unpaid, consumers receive a phone call from our office, again warning of a potential disconnect, and are given time to settle their bill before a disconnect will take place. Account holders who elected to go paperless will also receive the same written notice of an overdue account and a follow-up phone call prior to disconnection. Online account holders can elect to receive email or text reminders about their bills under their account settings.

It's very important to keep your contact information up to date with SDCEA, not only so we can contact you if there is an issue with your account, but also so we can contact you regarding your service, such as during or after an outage.

If you have any questions about SDCEA's disconnect policy, our customer service department can be reached during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., M-F at 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412, for clarification of any billing questions. SDCEA members can also review the status of their account at any time online by clicking the yellow sign-in button at the top of any page on our website. From that sign-in, consumers can read the disconnect policy, (No. C-4) in its entirety.

KEEP TRACK OF YOUR ELECTRIC USAGE

Would you like some ways to keep track of your electric usage? Electric meters keep track of the electricity you use in your home. With our advanced metering system, members have access to detailed data about their energy use in real time. This helps you identify ways to use less electricity and reduce your monthly bills.

Accessing this information via your online account is easy. Visit myelectric.coop to create an account or log in. Once in SmartHub, you'll see a variety of useful information about your account, including how much electricity you're using and when, historical usage comparisons and more. You can view kilowatt-hours consumed and daily temperatures. The data can be broken down by month, week, day or hour. You'll also notice an actual cost calculated for each day. You may export your data or view your billing history.

HERE'S WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- Are there unexpected patterns in your usage or daily costs?
- Were your daily activities different on those days (i.e., family stayed home, extra guests, laundry day)?
- Was the temperature higher or lower on those days, causing the air conditioner or furnace to run in excess of normal operations?



As you review your account, please make sure we have current contact information including your cellphone, landline and email address. This allows us to get in touch with you about important things such as planned outages or issues with your bill. Set up your own alert preferences and we'll let you know when your bill is due or a payment is received.

Give us a call if you have questions or need assistance.

NEW PHONE OR EMAIL?



If you've changed your phone number or email address since you've taken service with SDCEA, please update your information with us.

Go to our website, myelectric.coop to the login box to create an account with updated information, or to update information if you already have an account.

You may also email us at info@myelectric.coop or call us 8 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F at 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412.