

SANGRE DE CRISTO ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The Outlet

FEBRUARY 2023



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Your community electric service provider.



ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

SDCEA's annual meeting will be held on **June 15, 2023**, at Buena Vista High School. Details to follow.



SDCEA BOARD ELECTION PROCEDURES

2023 ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR

ELECTION DEADLINES

- **April 13** Date of Record. Nomination petitions, candidate biographies, and financial disclosure forms are due by 5 p.m.
- **June 8** Ballot receipt deadline
- **June 12** SDCEA Board of Directors Election
- **June 15** SDCEA Annual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR ELECTION NOTICE

SDCEA Board of Directors set June 15, 2023, for the cooperative's 83rd annual meeting at Buena Vista High School, Buena Vista.

Members of the cooperative will act on financial data for the year 2022 and consider any other cooperative business presented at the meeting.

DIRECTOR SEATS

Three seats are up for election in June. Town of Buena Vista incumbent director Blake Bennetts has announced his intent to run in the June election, as have at-large incumbent director Michael Robinson and rural Chaffee/Lake County director Joe Redetzke.

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 in a future election should review the candidate guidelines.

Elections will be held separately from the annual meeting by mail vote.

If you are interested in running for a board seat, please contact SDCEA at 844-395-2412 or info@myelectric.coop. Members must reside within the director's district to be considered for nomination.

Petitions for circulation were made available January 3, 2023. Nomination petitions, candidate questionnaires and financial disclosure forms must be received at SDCEA's office in Buena Vista by 5 p.m. Thursday, April 6, 2023.

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 board directors spend a considerable amount of time reading cooperative 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:

- At any time during such person's nomination, election campaign, or term of office fails or has failed to meet the qualifications provided in Article II, Section 3.A. of SDCEA's Bylaws. The Board of Directors shall establish a policy to execute a vote to expel a Director for failure to meet the qualifications provided in Article II, Section 3.A of SDCEA's Bylaws.

YOUR CO-OP NEWS

- Fails to protect the confidentiality of Personal Identifiable Information and other confidential information provided to SDCEA by members, consumers, employees, directors, vendors and the public.
- 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 12, 2023:
 - › 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, 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 NRECA 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.

Interested in learning more about SDCEA's board of directors, rates & policies and other cooperative information?



Go to our website, myelectric.coop, and click on the gold Governance button on the right side near the top of the page.



Sangre de Cristo Electric Association
Your Community Electric Cooperative

Not-for-profit, providing reliable, safe electricity to rural residents and communities in central Colorado



CARBON REDUCTION OPTIONS

Together with our wholesale power supplier, Tri-State G&T, we work diligently to bring our members cost-effective, reliable, clean energy.

Green Energy Program

Interested in having green energy delivered to your home? SDCEA's Green Energy Program provides you the opportunity to purchase 100-kilowatt-hour blocks of electricity generated from renewable sources without having to make an expensive investment in equipment and installation of rooftop equipment to do so.

As an electric distribution cooperative, SDCEA purchases wholesale power to send out along the lines and infrastructure that we develop and maintain. For an extra 40 cents per month for each block, you will direct SDCEA's power supplier to purchase additional renewable energy to power a portion, or all, of your electric consumption at your home or business. This option allows you individual choice to support increased clean energy use without passing the cost of purchasing that power on to other consumers. There is no limit to the number of blocks you may purchase.

SDCEA has committed to this program and proudly supplies our headquarters in Buena Vista and our warehouse in Westcliffe with 100% clean energy.

Community Solar

Our Community Solar Program is an option for consumers who want to invest extra funds each month to buy into the locally-generated energy output from SDCEA's Trout Creek Solar facility. This program is also suited for you if you are unable or do not want to install solar panels at your home or business. The community



solar program allows consumers to purchase a subscription for a portion of the power generated at Trout Creek Solar, a solar facility south of Buena Vista. Published subscription rates for residential and non-residential consumers are available on our website in the Governance section on our homepage, myelectric.coop.

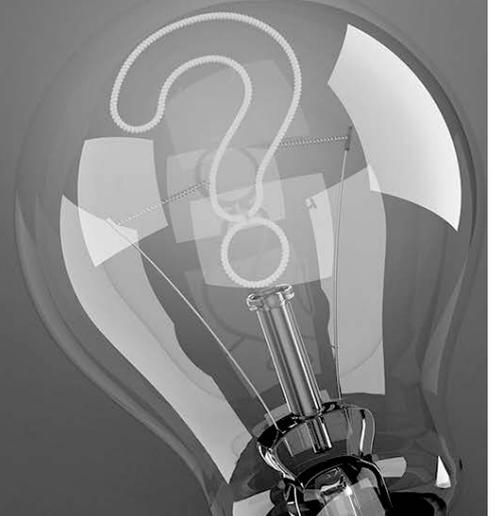
Rooftop Solar

Interested in adding private solar, wind or hydro energy to your account? We're here to help. As a matter of fact, SDCEA has one of the highest percentages of rooftop solar penetration in the state of Colorado. Consumer-owned solar, wind or hydro involves significant up-front costs or financing for a long-term investment, which requires careful analysis. Give us a call to ask questions, to find out what size and type of system may work best for you, and to learn how our program works. We'll give you the information you need and explain what SDCEA requirements you will need to meet before you talk to a solar installer or invest in solar. Email netmetering@myelectric.coop or call 844-395-2412.

HAVE A QUESTION

about something to do with SDCEA?

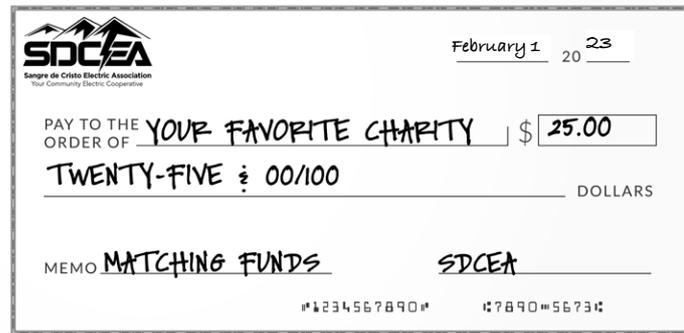
The quickest way to get in touch is to give our office a call at 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412. Our business office in Buena Vista is open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, closed on major holidays. Or send an email with your question to info@myelectric.coop.





WORK BEGINS ON LINE REBUILD

To improve service and reliability in the area, SDCEA's contractor Altitude Energy began work February 1 on a line rebuild of the main line from Verdemon Road in Custer County north to CR 1A to Cotopaxi and along US Hwy 50 west to CR 40 in the Coaldale area.



MATCHING GRANT

It's a new year, so a reminder: If you are a member (named account holder) of SDCEA, when 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 (2023) to be considered for the matching grant program. Funds for the matching grant program are available until expended.

OUTAGES

Do you have an outage to report? Don't hesitate to call 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412.

DO NOT email your outage information or post your outage information on social media. SDCEA cannot monitor that information effectively, especially after hours. The only way to be sure we know you have an outage is to phone it in.

SUPPLY CHAIN LEAD TIMES

SDCEA is alerting contractors, builders and members that lead time on materials is longer than normal. This may impact line extension, service upgrade projects and programs in 2023. SDCEA is working to maintain a healthy inventory of equipment to minimize the potential delays, yet we encourage stakeholders to review their project estimates and timelines closely. To ensure realistic expectations, please reach out to our engineering department regarding any changes in your project timeline.

REBATES

SDCEA and our power supplier, Tri-State G&T, have teamed up to bring you rebates for installing Energy Star-rated appliances, water heaters, heat pumps, outdoor power equipment and more.

Want to learn more? Go to our website, myelectric.coop, click on Save Energy & Money and head to the Rebates tab.

NEW PHONE/EMAIL

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

Go to 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., Monday–Friday at 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412.



DID YOU KNOW?

More than 40% of the total, everyday electricity now supplied to members on SDCEA lines is from clean energy sources. By 2025, that amount is anticipated to be more than 50%. By 2030, more than 70% of clean energy is planned to be supplied to our lines systemwide.