

FEC. POWER

Source

Vol. 20 No. 4

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



FEC. FREE ELECTRICITY!

You could be the lucky winner of our GRAND PRIZE, (\$1,000 in free electricity), at Farmers' Electric Cooperative's 78th Annual Membership Meeting

Registration:	9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Business Meeting:	10:30 a.m.
Lunch:	Following Business Meeting

House High School Gym
309 S. Apple Street
House, New Mexico

Saturday, April 30, 2016

To take action upon the following matters:

- The reports of Officers, Trustees, and Committees
- The elections of Trustees from:
District 2 (Melrose)
District 7 (Logan/San Jon)
- All other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof
- Door prizes for adults and children
- Grand Prize Drawing (\$1,000 in FREE ELECTRICITY!)
- Two special drawings (\$50 Energy Certificates for "First-Time attendance
- Lunch, (provided by Farmers' Electric), will be served by House School students and parents



We Have That App!

The TogetherWeSave.com - Save Energy, Save Money smart phone app allows co-op members to calculate the energy costs of their household electrical items, learn energy savings tips, and receive notification alerts from Farmers' Electric Cooperative. Watch how the little changes add up to big savings. With the TogetherWeSave.com app, you can discover easy ways to save energy and money in your home. Find this fun and educational tool @ your app store.



Manager's Message...



Lance Adkins, GM

Renewable Energy Making an Impact

With the announcement of a new large-scale wind project in the Broadview/Grady area, I get quite a few questions about how much electricity will Farmers' Electric (FEC) receive from the new wind farm. Total nameplate generating capacity of the Project being developed by Pattern Renewables LP is 497 megawatts (MW). By comparison, the peak load of FEC, which occurs during the summer months, is roughly 80 MW. Electrically, the Project will inter-

connect with the western United States power grid (WECC). FEC is in the eastern United States power grid, interconnected with the Southwest Power Pool (SPP). In short, we are electrically separated from the Project and will not receive any electric energy from the new wind farm.

I am pleased to report that FEC currently has one of the highest ratios of renewable energy in our portfolio of any electric utility in New Mexico. In addition, 2015 marked the first year the State Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) has applied to rural electric cooperatives. New Mexico's RPS requires that FEC's energy supply be comprised of at least five percent generated by certified, renewable resources in calendar year 2015. FEC's renew-

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able energy requirement increases by one percent per year through 2020. FEC was not an "early adopter" of renewable energy technology due to wholesale contract restrictions and the historical high cost of energy produced in comparison to conventional resources. Over time, the cost of energy produced by renewable resources has declined and the Board and management of FEC continue to look for opportunities to incorporate renewable energy in a way that makes economic sense for the membership. With the cost for natural gas used in the generation of a substantial portion of the electricity we purchase at an all-time low, it is much more difficult for renewable energy to be cost competitive with conventional fossil-fuel resources in the short term.

So, just how much of FEC's energy supply was generated by renewable energy resources last year? When talking about renewable energy most folks think of solar and wind, though other resources are recognized such as hydroelectric and biomass. Last year 26 percent of all energy purchased by FEC was generated by renewable resources, 23 percent wind, 3 percent hydroelectric and a very small amount of solar. Most of the wind resource was generated by the two Brahms wind farms that interconnected with FEC in 2014, also located in the Broadview/Grady area. We also receive a load-ratio-share of wind resources in our wholesale supply from Southwestern Public Service Company, generated by wind farms located in New

see WIND on PAGE 3

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WIND from PAGE 2

Mexico and Texas.

Conventional, fossil fuel generation, coal and natural gas, provided most of the remaining 74 percent of our energy last year. However, this energy is actually supplied by the wholesale energy market managed by the SPP, and includes a substantial amount of wind and an increasing amount of solar. However, for our reporting requirements, we only report renewable energy that is certified renewable by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), for energy produced in Texas, and the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS), for energy produced in New Mexico, as required by the State RPS.

Until Next Month,

Paul A. Collins

April Daze!

Charbroil Patio Bistro Electric Infrared Grill

\$139

Save \$50!

***While supplies last**



Members registering at the Annual Meeting of Members on behalf of a partnership, organization, church, trust, corporation, partnership, governmental agency, limited liability company, or sole proprietorship should present documentation at registration denoting such. For convenience, a blank form below has been provided to accomplish this. This form or affidavit should be signed and notarized. The form can be delivered by the appointed individual at the time of registration at the Annual Meeting. No person may vote more than one time or receive more than one ballot. For more information, call: 800-445-8541 or 575-762-4466

FARMERS' ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. OF NEW MEXICO

Affidavit for use by a Non-Individual Member to Authorize a Voting Representative

I, _____ do hereby certify that _____ is the voting representative of _____ (name of entity) and is the duly authorized legal representative for such entity for the purpose of voting on any and all matters that may arise at the annual meeting of members of Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc. of New Mexico (hereinafter referred to as "Farmers' Electric") as held on April 30, 2016 in House, New Mexico to vote on behalf of _____ (name of entity) on any and all matters that may arise at the annual meeting of members of Farmers' Electric. This affidavit shall remain in effect through said meeting date unless earlier canceled by written notice received by Farmers' Electric.

Type of Entity: (please specify)

- Organization
- Church
- Trust
- Corporation
- Partnership
- Governmental Agency
- Limited Liability Company
- Sole Proprietorship

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
)
COUNTY OF _____)

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Cooperative Member's Qualifying Telephone Number

On This _____ day of _____, 2016, personally appeared before me _____, being know to be the person and acknowledging the forgoing instrument.

(SEAL)

My Commission Expires: _____

Notary Public

National Lineman Appreciation Day

America's Electric Cooperatives have designated the second Monday of April as National Lineman Appreciation Day. Nationwide, there are approximately 18,000 full-time linemen working for rural electric cooperatives. They make up almost one-third of all distribution electric cooperative employees. Altogether, the dedicated men and women help maintain over 2.5 million miles of distribution line for over 850 distribution systems across the country.

In the FEC service area, there are 22 linemen at work, every day, around the clock. All doing their part to help keep the lights on for the members. They are charged with the maintenance and care of over 4,200 miles of distribution/transmission lines, associated equipment, and 17 substations and interchanges. FEC has a sizable service area; Those 4,200 plus miles of line stretch out over 11,000 square miles of real estate in eastern New

Mexico and far west Texas.

FEC likes to think they celebrate not only the linemen on a regular basis, but also the support cast of other employees made up of positions ranging from Maintenance, Billing, Engineering, Operations, Accounting, and

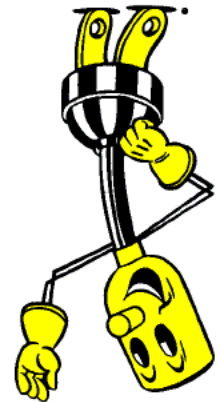


FEC Lineman Phillip Gage doing pole change-out

Management. However, at the end of the day, it's the linemen that work the countless dangerous hours in the worst conditions imaginable, often times with little to no sleep. Right after Christmas last year, when winter storm Goliath brought with it blizzard conditions, frigid temperatures, and

impassable roads, FEC linemen from a good portion of the service area were out in force trying to restore power. Heroes? Maybe. Men who like to work with their minds and hands, care about the welfare and safety of others, work hard to provide for their families? Definitely.

“Owned By Those We Serve”



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