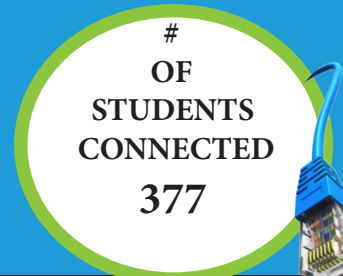




 *KCEC is 56% Daytime Solar*



CEO'S

MESSAGE

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative Receives \$26.2 Million in Grants and Loans to Expand Broadband Offerings

TAOS, NM – Feb. 2, 2021 – Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC) has received three grants and loans totaling \$26 million to deploy and expand high speed fiber-optic internet access for its rural broadband customers. These grants will help ensure critical broadband connection to those within the KCEC territory that need it most, as well as support the cooperative's smart grid initiatives.

An \$18 million grant from the FCC is part of the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) program and was granted to KCEC for expanded broadband delivery, helping to connect nearly 100% of its entire membership throughout rural northern New Mexico, including the two pueblos KCEC serves – the Taos Pueblo and Picuris Pueblo – with more than 1,200 potential high-speed, 1 GB internet connections. These connections are critical to support distance learning, remote work, telehealth and other crucial services. The \$18 million grant will be distributed to KCEC over the next ten years. The Rural Digital Opportunity Fund is part of a broader effort to close the digital divide in rural America.

KCEC was also awarded \$634,687 by the New Mexico Public Regulatory Commission (NMPRC) to support high-speed internet service for low-income residents, students, and tribal members. This award will connect 550 locations to broadband services. KCEC will complete this grant in a strategic, 12-month timeframe. NMPRC awards multiple ISPs annually with funding to help build or upgrade networks around New Mexico.

Finally, KCEC was awarded a \$7.5 million Rural Utilities Service (RUS) loan to invest in fiber communications and establish 7,497 network drops in the cooperative's service area. These drops will be used to bolster the cooperative's modern, smart grid applications, including smart meter reading and backhaul, real-time monitoring, smart switches and smart devices at the home and in the system.

KCEC has installed 30 free Wi-Fi hotspots in primary locations throughout its territory to support members during the COVID -19 Pandemic. These funds will allow KCEC to continue to enhance coverage and installation of these free Wi-Fi networks.

Helping to improve broadband access to all KCEC members and providing all of our school children with access to Giga-bit high-speed internet are critical initiatives for KCEC, and these funds will help make that possible. In addition, this additional funding will help monitor and operate our 100% daytime solar network. All of these initiatives come together to help us provide a high-speed, multipurpose communications network of carrier-class in a very rural part of New Mexico.

Luis A. Reyes Jr., CEO of Kit Carson Electric Cooperative



February Month Special

For the month of February, Kit Carson Propane is offering \$2.40 per gallon for Residential and Bottle Dock Customers. PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

We are also offering contactless customer service through our online portal!

Customer Service Propane Chat Now Online!!

Customers are now able to chat with a customer service representative for billing and inquiry questions. Learn more at www.kitcarson.com

Please call the office when your tank is at 20% to avoid running out of fuel. For the upcoming months, PLEASE keep driveways and areas under tanks clear and free from snow and debris.

Safety is our # 1 concern.

Please allow 5-7 business days for deliveries to be completed. \$1.99 PER GALLON FOR NEW CUSTOMERS TANK SETS AND GAS CHECKS ARE FREE OF CHARGE WITHOUT NECESSARY UPGRADES

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Next Board of Trustee monthly Board meeting will be held February 23, 2021 at 9:00 am via virtual conferencing.

**¡Que Viva Taos!
¡Que Viva Vaccination!**

Take Care of The Taos Community. Help our Ancianos (people 75+) get registered for the COVID-19 Vaccine with these easy steps:

Step 1: Register at vaccinenm.org or call 855-600-3453

Step 2: Receive a CONFIRMATION Code confirming your registration.

Step 3: WAIT to hear from the NMDOH.

Step 4: Receive a notification from NMDOH providing you with an EVENT Code and schedule your COVID-19 vaccine appointment.

Step 5: Go into your profile and indicate that you have received your first COVID-19 vaccine.

Step 6: WAIT to hear from NMDOH to get your Second Dose EVENT Code.



Contact Us



MAIN OFFICE (575) 758-2258 or 1-800-688-6780

CUSTOMER SERVICE: (575) 751-9064 or 1-800-944-8159

CUSTOMER SERVICE FAX: (575) 758-4611

CUSTOMER SERVICE EMAIL: csr@kitcarson.com

ADMINISTRATION FAX: (575) 758-4890

AUTOMATED SYSTEM: (575) 751-8132

POWER OUTAGE/SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS: (575) 758-6100

EMERGENCY LINE-LOCATES: 1-800-321-2537

QUESTA OFFICE: (575) 586-2113 Closed until further notice.

KIT CARSON INTERNET: (575) 758-4838 or 1-800-758-4820

KIT CARSON PROPANE: (575) 758-7757

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATORY COMMISSION: 1-800-947-4722

* This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer