

April
2022



Kit Carson Electric Cooperative Newsletter

*From the
CEO at
KCEC*

Hello, Kit Carson Electric Member,

During the past two years of COVID and related hardships, KCEC has continued maintaining reliable and affordable electricity. I'm happy to announce that when gasoline, propane, natural gas, diesel, and other utilities continue to rise, KCEC electric bills will decrease this summer. (Read next month's newsletter to find out the decreased amount.)

In 2016, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative left Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association because we were tired of constant rate increases and knew we could get less expensive power from solar energy at Guzman Energy. We were right! In June, KCEC will make its final payment while achieving our goal of generating 100% of our daytime power from the sun. Thus the "fuel adjustment" segment of your electric bill will decrease.

Today, KCEC owns and operates 18 solar arrays throughout our service territory, totaling 18.6 MW or 43-48% solar generation. Did you know KCEC will exceed its 100% daytime solar goal by 2022? KCEC has two solar and battery storage projects under construction near the Taos Municipal Landfill and the Angel Fire Water Treatment Plant. These projects will provide an additional 22.5 MWs of solar energy and 16.25 MWs of battery storage to KCEC's renewable portfolio. KCEC's Taos Mesa Array is approximately 80% complete and will be operational in May. The Taos Mesa solar project will have 15 MWs of solar energy and 12.5 MWs of battery storage, (10) 1.25 MW Tesla batteries will be installed at the Taos Mesa array. The project spans roughly 170 acres and has 43,680 solar panels. The Taos Mesa project will power approximately 7,500 homes, not including battery storage.

In Angel Fire, the crews completed earthwork and move forward with underground wiring and pile driving beams for the solar tracking system. The Angel Fire project will have 7.5 MW of solar energy with 3.75 MW of battery storage. The project spans roughly 70 acres and contains 17,108 solar panels. The Angel Fire project will power approximately 3,750 homes, not including battery storage. Once the Taos and Angel Fire projects are finished, KCEC will have 41 MW of solar and 16.25 MW of battery storage. KCEC integrating additional solar and battery storage will continue to build a resilient and reliable network. These projects will provide significant renewable energy to our communities and provide rate stabilization for our members.

The future of our members is now cleaner, more affordable, and reliable!

Thank you for helping us reach our goal as we continue to move forward to a green future. Stay tuned as we continue to provide our members with updated information on EV charging stations, solar projects and monthly electric bill decreases.

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

RESUMPTION OF 2020 ELECTIONS

Please contact Carmella Suazo, Assistant Manager, 575.758.2258 ext. 132, for information or questions regarding upcoming elections scheduled to be held in May 2022.

DISTRICT 1 – MAY 10, 2022 – Taos area
DISTRICT 3 – MAY 16, 2022 – Ojo Caliente area
DISTRICT 4 – MAY 18, 2022 – Penasco area
DISTRICT 5 – MAY 20, 2022 – Angel Fire/Eagle Nest area

**PRICES AT THE PUMP
GOT YOU DOWN?**
A DECREASE IN ELECTRICITY COST IS COMING SOON!

In 2016, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative left the Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association because we were tired of constant rate increases and knew we could get less expensive power from solar energy and Guzman. We were right! In June, KCEC will make its final payment while achieving our goal of generating 100% of our daytime power supply from the sun. Thus the "fuel adjustment" segment of your electric bill will decrease.

KIT CARSON
Electric Cooperative • Internet • Propane
kitcarson.com

THE FUTURE OF OUR MEMBERS IS NOW CLEANER, MORE AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE.

Kit Carson Internet

Please direct all questions to our office
575-758-4838

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service. The benefit provides:

- Up to \$30/month discount for internet service.
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A household is eligible if one member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline.
- Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision.
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income program.

TWO STEPS TO ENROLL

- 1 Go to ACPBenefit.org to apply or print out a mail-in application.
- 2 When approved, contact your internet provider. They will inform you of what information they need to enroll you in the ACP and then the discount will be applied to your monthly bill.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Bobby Ortega - President District 2
- Christopher Duran – Vice President District 4
- Bruce Jassman – Treasurer District 5
- Manual Medina – Secretary District 1
- Arthur Rodarte District 3
- Bernie Torres District 2
- Robert Bresnahan District 1,
- David Torres District 1
- Luisa Valero-Mylet District 1,
- Michael Romero District 4
- Russ Coyle District 5

Next Board of Trustees meeting:
April 26th at 9:00 am
Kit Carson Board Room
118 Cruz Alta Road, Taos

Kit Carson Propane

Please direct all questions to our office
575-758-7757

KEEPING THE HEAT ON!

For the Month of March, Kit Carson Propane is offering \$3.00 per gallon for Residential and Bottle Dock Customers.

PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE!!!

Please call the office at 20% to avoid running out of fuel. We only fill to 80% of the tank capacity. Please keep driveways, and area under tanks clear and free from debris.

EMERGENCY FEE FOR OUT OF GAS CALLS ARE \$125 LOCAL AND \$150 OUT OF TAOS COUNTY - \$2.50 PER GALLON FOR NEW CUSTOMERS TANK SETS & GAS CHECKS ARE FREE OF CHARGE WITHOUT NECESSARY UPGRADES

Need Assistance with paying Utilities, Please Visit: <http://helpnm.com/housing>

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

Quick Propane Facts

Propane, also known as Liquefied Petroleum Gas, or LP is a different fuel source than most typical fuels. LP can be used in either liquid or gas vapor form.

If a Propane tank were to be filled beyond 80% you would have a serious fire hazard as the liquid propane was run through the system.

Propane is stored in a sealed vessel. You don't have to worry about dirty fuel, water in the fuel, or any kind of algae growth.

You may want to check the manufacture date of your LP cylinders, even the ones you have at home on your BBQ grill. If they go out of date while you are traveling you may not be able to have them filled. The date is stamped on to the collar of ALL LP cylinders in the form MM – YY. When a cylinder reaches its 12th birthday it must be inspected or recertified. If you find more than one date the most current should have a letter after it, most often an E, this date is good for 5 years.

