



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Luis A Reyes Jr., CEO

lreyes@kitcarson.com

Richard Martinez, COO

rmartinez@kitcarson.com

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative Prepares Forest Fire Prevention Measures

Taos, New Mexico – In an effort to prevent multiple tree contacts, effective today, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc. (KCEC) is working on a preventative effort designed to mitigate or negate potential fire caused by downed power lines or trees and debris coming into contact with our electric infrastructure. This complements our current year-round tree trimming program, but we need to address this effort aggressively but strategically because of the fires surrounding us and the continued drought.

KCEC will be taking a proactive approach by placing protective devices on non-reclose (the device will act like a fuse and will only have one operation versus four) in forested areas. This may cause frequent and more prolonged power interruptions since, in the event of an outage, the protocol will be to patrol the affected area before restoring power.

While this approach may temporarily delay some other daily functions of the cooperative, such as processing new work orders, we want to assure you that we are also developing a plan to address the most urgent new connections that need to be established. Construction projects will take longer to complete as KCEC manages crews to help implement preventive measures. KCEC will prioritize and adjust plans accordingly as conditions change. We will provide periodic updates as the summer and wildfire season progresses.

The areas that will be on non-reclose (the device will act like a fuse and will only have one operation versus four) are as follows:

- Upper Red River Valley
- Taos Canyon and Valle Escondido
- NM 518 Corridor – Vadito eastward to the Mora County line
- El Valle
- Cabresto Canyon in Questa
- Vallecitos, Canon Plaza, Petaca, Las Tablas, La Madera
- Ute Park and Green Mountain

- Elizabeth Town and Iron Mountain
- Idlewild, Lakeview Pines, Black Lake area (Black Lake Resorts and Hidden Lake)
- San Antonio Mountain, Los Pinos

KCEC is committed to keeping you informed and updated. We will continue to inform and update community members of any future planned outages and information regarding the extreme wildfire conditions. Rest assured, KCEC has crews on standby to address power disruptions.

To receive further information, please reach out to CEO Luis Reyes at lreyes@kitcarson.com or COO Richard Martinez at rmartinez@kitcarson.com.

About Kit Carson Electric Cooperative

Formed in 1944, Kit Carson is a member owned electric distribution cooperative in northern New Mexico and is the second largest cooperative in the state. Kit Carson is one of 16 electric cooperatives that serve rural New Mexico communities, serving nearly 30,000 members in Taos, Colfax and Rio Arriba counties. To learn more about Kit Carson, visit www.kitcarson.com.

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