



POWERGRAM

A monthly newsletter for OCEC Members

LINEWORKERS ARE WIRED FOR SERVICE

In the quiet hours before dawn breaks, while many of us are still nestled in our beds, lineworkers begin their day, often clad in flame-resistant clothing, safety goggles, rubber gloves and thick, heavy boots.

They are the individuals who epitomize dedication to service in its purest form. As we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 14, this is an important moment to reflect on the essential role they play in our daily lives.

Amid towering utility poles and power lines, lineworkers exhibit a strength that goes far beyond the physical. Whether battling inclement weather, troubleshooting technical problems or navigating treacherous heights, lineworkers demonstrate resilience and a quiet determination to keep our lights on, our homes comfortable, and our communities connected.

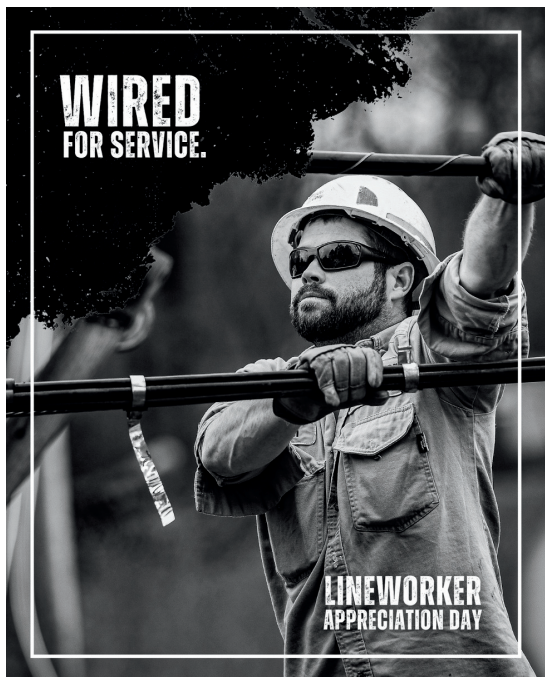
OCEC crews travel across our four-county service territory, building, maintaining and repairing parts of our local system. Their extraordinary skills ensure our homes remain connected to the grid, businesses stay operational, and emergency services remain accessible—a lifeline that connects us all.

In moments of crisis, when the lights go out and we find ourselves in the dark, lineworkers emerge as beacons of hope. Their swift response restores normalcy, offering reassurance in times of uncertainty. Whether repairing storm-ravaged power lines or ensuring continuity during emergencies, their unwavering commitment illuminates life when we need it most.

OCEC lineworkers also answer the call beyond the boundaries of home. Our crews travel to fellow co-ops, near or far, when widespread outages occur and additional support is needed. Cooperation among cooperatives is one of our seven guiding principles, and no one embodies this core commitment better than lineworkers.

This month, as we celebrate the remarkable men who ensure reliable power, let's recognize their unwavering dedication to the local communities they serve.

The next time you flip a switch, please take a moment to remember those who make it possible—lineworkers, who are wired for service and dedicated to illuminating life.



Thank you to the 22 dedicated line crew personnel who keep the lights shining for OCEC members!

Cable Angelus - Apprentice Lineman - Cloudcroft
Kyle Breck - Equipment Operator - Alto
JD Brown - Equipment Operator - Alto
Carlos Cano - Apprentice Lineman - Cloudcroft
Aristeo Chavez - Apprentice Lineman - Alto
Matt Chavez - Crew Chief - Cloudcroft
Wayne Cooper - Apprentice Lineman - Alto
Tanner Dean - Journeyman Lineman - Cloudcroft
John Gillen - Crew Chief - Cloudcroft
Ryan Guevara - Crew Chief - Alto
Garrett Hacker - Crew Chief - Alto
Chris Hughes - Crew Chief - Cloudcroft
Conner Knehr - Apprentice Lineman - Alto
Elias Orozco - Apprentice Lineman - Cloudcroft
Jude Otero - Journeyman Lineman - Cloudcroft
DeMarco Ramirez - Apprentice Lineman - Alto
Adam Raulerson - Equipment Operator - Cloudcroft
Isaiah Salazar - Apprentice Lineman - Cloudcroft
Ben Sanchez - Journeyman Lineman - Alto
Baylee Sanderson - Apprentice Lineman - Cloudcroft
James Vigil - Equipment Operator - Cloudcroft
Nolan Young - Apprentice Lineman - Alto



APRIL CALENDAR PHOTO submitted by DeMarco Ramirez (left & middle photos) and Garrett Hacker (right photo)

**APRIL
2025**

**CLOUDCROFT
575-682-2521**

**ALTO
575-336-4550**

**CARRIZOZO
575-648-2352**

**LOBBY HOURS
8 AM - 4 PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY**

**TO REPORT AN
OUTAGE, CALL
1-800-548-4660**

**FOR BALANCE
INFORMATION OR TO
PAY YOUR BILL, CALL
1-855-940-3957**

WWW.OCEC-INC.COM

UNDERSTANDING NIGHTTIME OPERATIONS DURING POWER OUTAGES

We would like to inform you about the dedicated work our electric line crews undertake, even in the darkest of nights. You may notice our crews surveying and patrolling lines late at night, equipped with flashlights, spotlights, and vehicles with flashing lights. This crucial work is essential for identifying and addressing outages, ensuring that your electric service is restored as quickly as possible.

Understanding Nighttime Operations

During outages, our crews are required to work in varied weather conditions and at all hours of the day. Their presence in your area at night may raise questions or concerns, but we want you to know that they pose no threat to you or your home. Instead, they are your neighbors and dedicated professionals committed to restoring power and maintaining the integrity of our electrical systems.

In some cases, they may use UTVs equipped with spotlights to better navigate the terrain and identify issues that could be the cause of the outage they are responding to. This level of vigilance is crucial for efficient service restoration and ensuring the safety of everyone involved during nighttime operations.

Crew Safety: Our Top Priority

While our crews are focused on restoring your power, their safety is our utmost priority. If their safety is compromised by any individuals while performing their duties, we are obligated to halt all restoration efforts until daylight. This precaution is necessary not only to protect our workers but also to ensure that our response team can work effectively and without fear of distraction or danger. Unfortunately, such a pause could mean that some members may experience longer outages, which we genuinely strive to avoid.

What You Can Do

If you see our crews working at night, we kindly ask for your understanding and support. Please remember:

- They are working diligently to restore your power.
- Allow them space, and refrain from approaching them while they work.
- Report any unsafe behaviors or situations to the authorities immediately.

Your cooperation is vital in ensuring both their safety and the efficiency of their work.

Please know that we are here to serve you around the clock, and our commitment to your electric service remains steadfast. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our customer service team.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Turn your suds into savings. Lower your energy use in the laundry room by washing clothes with cold water whenever possible, as heating water accounts for most of the energy used in a laundry cycle. Wash full loads to make the most of energy savings, and use high-efficiency detergent designed for cold washes. For drying cycles, clean the lint filter before each load to improve airflow and use dryer balls to reduce drying time.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Crews working to trim trees and vegetation in rights-of-way are currently in the following areas and are expected to remain there for the next few weeks.

- Capitan
- Carrizozo
- Cloudcroft
- James Canyon
- Nogal Canyon - Bent

We kindly ask for your cooperation when you see crews working to keep these areas clear. This task plays a vital role in reducing fire hazards and ensuring consistent power delivery to members.



A great depiction of a line truck and crew patrolling to identify the cause of an electric outage during the night. Photo courtesy of Elias Orozco, OCEC lineman.

OCEC OFFICES
CLOSED

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 18, 2025