

# enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's  
Rural Electric Cooperatives

**OTERO COUNTY  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NOVEMBER 2023



## Co-ops Power the *Holidays*

New Mexico's rural  
electric cooperatives spread  
holiday cheer throughout the year

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Sierra Electric Cooperative employees volunteer at  
holiday events at Elephant Butte State Park. PHOTO  
COURTESY OF SIERRA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE





A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Chief Executive Officer

Mario Romero

## Cloudcroft Office

404 Burro Ave. • P.O. Box 227  
Cloudcroft, NM 88317  
575-682-2521

## Carrizozo Office

507 12th St. • P.O. Box 669  
Carrizozo, NM 88301  
575-648-2352

## Alto Office

1135 Hwy. 48 • P.O. Box 1135  
Alto, NM 88312  
575-336-4550

## Emergency and Outages

800-548-4660

Fax: 575-682-3109

Website: [www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com)

## Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (M-F)

## Board of Trustees

### President

Charles Mulcock, SE District

### Vice President

Denny Burnett, SE District

### Secretary

Marty Mills, Central District

### Treasurer

Scott Shafer, NW District

Kenny Blazer, SW District

Bill Bird, NE District

Cheri Hass, Central District

David Powers, NE District

Tim Rabon, SW District

Preston Stone, NW District

## Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets at 9 a.m. the third Friday of the month at the cooperative.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# Winter Season Disconnect Moratorium Notice

Protection from winter shutoff begins November 15. To avoid potential disconnection of service, contact the Human Services Department at 800-283-4465, or the appropriate tribal or pueblo entity for eligibility information for the Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program.

Your service will not be disconnected from November 15, 2023, through March 15, 2024, if you meet the qualifications of LIHEAP and have no past due amounts or remain current on any settlement or installment agreement for amounts due as of November 15. Members of New Mexico tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters can contact the commission's consumer relations division at 888-427-5772, which will contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance.

# Apply to be a 2023 Youth Tour Delegate

Otero County Electric Cooperative is proud to sponsor delegates to attend the 2024 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors to visit Washington, D.C., for a week in June 2024.

OCEC began sponsoring students in 2017, but Youth Tour has brought high school students from across the country to the nation's capital

since 1950.

This year, OCEC will sponsor up to four students to go on this the trip and see history come alive as they explore museums, memorials and monuments, visit with U.S. senators and make friendships that can last a lifetime.

Pick up an application at your local OCEC office, from your school guidance counselor or visit [www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com).



ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY FAHRWASSER



# Protect Lineworkers

## *by Moving Over*

Otero County Electric Cooperative lineworkers have one of the most dangerous jobs in the nation. These dangers increase when working along the roadside.

### **Do Your Part to Protect Them**

If you are driving and see crews working on the side of the road, slow down and move over. It's the law. More importantly, you will help ensure those lineworkers return home safely to their families and continue to be there when you need them.

Hundreds of utility workers, law enforcement officers, first responders and other public service workers are injured or killed each year in preventable roadside accidents that could have been prevented.

The Move Over law states that when motorists approach workers and stopped vehicles with flashing emergency lights along the roadside, the drivers must slow down. They must also move out of the lane closest to the workers when it is safe to do so. Give the workers the space

needed to do their jobs.

### **Stay Alert While Driving**

If you come upon roadside crews and cannot safely move over, slow down to at least 20 mph less than the posted speed limit. If you fail to do this, it can put workers at risk.

Protect our lineworkers. They are on the job for you, ensuring reliable power. It's another way your hometown electric cooperative is always here for you.

**PLEASE MOVE  
OVER FOR  
EMERGENCY  
AND UTILITY  
CREWS**

**If you see police, firefighters, utility crews or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible.**

**Together, we can keep our crews safe.**

