

GETTING CONNECTED

"Owned By Those We Serve!"

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CEO's Message, Luis Reyes Jr.



I would like to take this opportunity to share with you that the budget for the year 2009 was approved by the Kit Carson Electric Coop (KCEC) Board of Trustees on January 27, 2009. With this

ideas and training for our staff so that they will be better trained and prepared to address energy issues affecting you the member. In addition to state wide training we are providing company wide in house training on our products and services tied to energy efficiency to our employees within the organization to help them better help you with energy concerns. The 2009 Legislative Session has started and Kit Carson Electric through its state wide association will be monitoring those bills and pieces of legislature that pertain to energy and that could directly and indirectly affect the Electric Cooperatives or our members. Additionally, in our effort to support and develop ever growing new renewable resources KCEC will be at the legislature following these types of bills as well as those which I feel are important and may have a direct impact on the operation and future trends of Kit Carson Electric, the rural cooperative association, and the residents of our surrounding areas. Kit Carson Electric will keep the membership updated on the status of any proposed bills that may impact us as the information becomes available.

KCEC together with a consumer task force will continue to look at different options in solar power initiatives. We have assigned some of our employees to be involved in a solar committee where they will be involved with members of our communities. We hope that by involving the membership we will be able to gain a broader understanding of how to best implement a solar initiation that will be available to everyone. Never the less, KCEC plans to implement projects that support economic development and the renewable energy initiative. As previously mentioned our Green power program continues to grow at a steady pace but could be enhanced significantly if more of you participate in the program. Our Green Power Program has a total of 1,738 members participating and a total of 3,636 kWh that are currently being purchased.

Kit Carson Electric does not anticipate a retail rate increase in 2009. We have continued to work efficiently on the delivery of power to our customers and the maintenance programs have proved to be successful with maintaining high reliability standards. Although this winter season has for the most part been mild, which affects our ski areas, as always it is a benefit to us in that it contributes to better working conditions and in some cases less unplanned power outages.

In closing I want to remind our members of the LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) that is offered. It is available to all members who meet the criteria established within the program's guidelines, as of January 30, 2009 Kit Carson Electric has received a total dollar amount of \$70,474.00 which was allocated to 237 consumers that were approved for LIHEAP funding. Keep in mind that you can still apply for LIHEAP assistance till September 2009. The Members Helping Members Program is developed to obtain voluntary contributions from participating members in order to have assistance available for those members within our service area who need help with paying their energy bill. The design of the program is such as not to incur a huge burden on participants, however, your support CAN and WILL make a huge difference in the well-being of someone less fortunate. We encourage those members who are financially able, to consider supporting the Members Helping Members Program through ongoing participation. Any contributions made in excess of your monthly bill will be deposited into the special Members Helping Members account along with all other participating member amounts. Donations will then be available to the members in need.

Sincerely,
Luis Reyes, CEO

accomplished we can now again dedicate our focus on the projects and programs for the year. The Board of Trustees has also been able to decrease their board expense by 45% over the past year. It is the intent of this Board and administration to provide you with the best reliable service and to operate as efficiently as possible. At the January Board Meeting, KCEC Board passed a resolution to support the passage of the \$2.8 million School Bond that is being voted on in two of the school districts that we serve. We feel that passage of this bond will assist both the Questa and Penasco Independent Schools with any infrastructure improvements. The purpose of the bond is to help these schools improve on or construct new cafeterias, remodel the school, make additions to and furnish school buildings within the district, to improve school grounds and to provide matching funds for capital outlay projects funded pursuant to the Public School Capital Outlay Act or any combination of these purposes. KCEC feels that all of these things are important to the well being of our future and our children.

I have shared with you in the past news letters that energy continues to be one of the most important issues to affect this country and the new elected administration. We at Kit Carson Electric want to be part of that priority have already begun to address energy efficiency. We have a representative of KCEC working at the statewide level with the state member service association developing

NEWS TO KNOW

Holiday Observance.... Kit Carson Electric Co-op will be closed on Monday February 16, 2009 in observance of the Presidents Day holiday! Regular business hours will resume on Tuesday, February 17 at 8:00 a.m. Kit Carson Electric extends best wishes to everyone for a safe holiday.

Monthly Board meetingis scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom of the cooperative. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Submission Deadline....the Scholarship applications are as follow: All written essays must be handed in to student councilors, postmarked or brought in to the cooperative no later than April 16, 2009. High School Seniors may contact Cecilia Quintana, Project Coordinator/Temporary Executive Secretary at (575) 758-2258 or toll free 1-800-688-6780 for information regarding this program. All qualifying students are encouraged to participate.

Safety Coloring Contest... the 2009 Safety Coloring Contest posters have been distributed. Back in January 2009, Richard Romero, Safety Coordinator for Kit Carson Electric, visited public schools and distributed the posters. The deadline for the posters is February 23, 2009. Please bring the poster to Kit Carson Electric or turn them in to your child's teacher.

**GO ELECTRIC!
and SAVE with ETS**

Electric Thermal Storage or ETS, is the technology of low cost electricity in the form of heat for use in heating 24 hours a day. ETS equipment stores heat during off-peak hours. Off-peak hours are those times during the day or night when Kit Carson Electric can supply electricity most economically. By utilizing ETS with off-peak hours, Kit Carson

Electric offers a discounted off-peak heating rate through our time-of-use (TOU) metering rate schedule.

The heat is stored within high-density ceramic brick. While ETS provides great benefits for consumers, it also provides significant value for Kit Carson Electric. It improves our system efficiencies, reduces our cost of power and can enhance our load and energy management efforts. ETS is an essential marketing component for power companies as we strive to reduce energy costs and remain competitive in the industry. ETS is Perfect for just about any application including: new construction (forced air hydronic or unit heaters), retrofit for existing heating systems, replacement or supplement for electric baseboard, additions, woodstove replacements, natural gas, propane, or fuel oil system replacements, or anywhere you desire Clean, Comfortable, Safe and Reliable heat. Rebate incentives are available on all sizes; and qualifying members have the option to participate in our financing program. Please contact the Public Relations department at Kit Carson Electric to find out how you can make the most of this heat source into your home or office.



KCEC District Trustees

Ambrose Mascarenas	President	Llano, NM	District (4)
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Arthur Rodarte	Trustee	Ojo Caliente, NM	District (3)
Jerry Smith	Trustee	Ocate, NM	District (5)

BOARD MEETINGS ON LAST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Contacts:

Main Office: (575) 758-2258/ 1-800-688-6780 **Customer Service:** (575) 751-9064/ 1-800-944-8159
Customer Service Fax: 758-4611 **Administration Fax:** 758-4890 **Automated System:** 751-8132
Power Outages/Service Interruptions: (575) 758-2258 **Emergency Line-locates:** 1-800-688-6780 ext. 173
Questa Satellite Office: (575) 586-2113 **Peñasco Satellite Office:** (575) 587-1900
Ojo Caliente Satellite Office: (575) 583-2072
New Mexico Public Regulatory Commission (PERA Building): 1-800-947-4722

Learn more about Kit Carson Electric on the Internet at: www.kitcarson.com