



October 28, 2014

NEWS

LPEA cautions customers of a new phone scam attempt

Tonight hotels/motels threatened of disconnection for lack of payment

DURANGO, Colo. – La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) is once again cautioning its members to not be fooled by an impersonator, claiming to be from LPEA and threatening disconnection for lack of payment. LPEA's Dispatch was alerted tonight (Oct. 28, 2014) of this new effort.

The current scam appears to be targeting local hotels and motels, and night shift operators at facilities are being told that an LPEA serviceman is on the way to the establishment for a disconnect if the account is not settled up.

"I've received four phone calls from local hotels thus far," said Les Hahn, LPEA dispatcher, noting that he has also alerted local authorities. "And I assured our hotels that LPEA was not coming out to disconnect their power in the middle of the night."

When an account is past due, LPEA customers receive a series of notices and are given adequate time to settle their bills before any disconnect would take place. If in doubt about a billing department phone call from LPEA or supposed authorized agent, customers are asked to politely end the conversation and call the LPEA Customer Service Department, 970.247.5786, to clarify any billing questions. If the call is blatantly fraudulent, members should also call the local authorities.

As Hahn notes of tonight's attempt, the aforementioned has been the correct procedure followed by hotel personnel with whom he has spoken.

LPEA, celebrating 75 years in 2014, provides to its more than 30,000 members, with nearly 41,000 meters, safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost, while being environmentally responsible. For additional information, contact LPEA at 970.247.5786 or visit www.lpea.coop.

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