



La Plata Electric Association, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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NEWS

Tokarczyk named to LPEA Apprentice Staking Engineer program *Former Accounting Clerk moves to new position within the cooperative*

DURANGO, Colo. – La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) Accounting Clerk Ashley Tokarczyk has been named to LPEA’s Apprentice Staking Engineer program – a four-year training endeavor that will ultimately lead to a full-time position as a Staking Engineer with the electric cooperative.

LPEA’s “stakers” work with the cooperative’s member-customers on design and layout of the power lines for their properties or projects.

Tokarczyk joined LPEA as a Billing Clerk in May 2013 following employment in the medical field where she garnered experience in customer relations and billing. She was named Accounting Clerk within the cooperative’s Finance and Accounting Department in September 2014.

“I always like to challenge myself and I have a drive to learn more and improve,” said Tokarczyk. “The Staking Engineer program is definitely a challenge, but I’m looking forward to it and I welcome this opportunity to expand my education here at LPEA.”

Raised in Durango, Tokarczyk attended Colorado State University at Fort Collins for two years before being wooed by Fort Lewis College’s Athletic Department to return to her hometown. As a result, Tokarczyk completed her degree in psychology at Fort Lewis while participating competitively on the school’s mountain biking team. She also competed nationally and internationally in BMX, in 2007 winning the women’s 17-24 Cruiser Class at the Union Cycliste International BMX Championships in Canada.

“We’re delighted to have Ashley join the Engineering Department,” said Manager of Staking Services Gayle Norman. “Having well-trained stakers is vital to serving our members, and it’s even better that Ashley already understands the industry and the culture at LPEA.”

Tokarczyk’s training is part of LPEA’s employee succession planning. Upon completing her apprenticeship, she will assume the Staking Engineer position vacated by

Morgan Carey, who is in training to become LPEA Land Rights Administrator to replace the retiring Randy Ferris.

LPEA, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative established in 1939, provides to its more than 30,000 members, with in excess of 42,000 meters, safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost, while being environmentally responsible.

LPEA offers a variety of apprenticeships and employment opportunities. To explore employment, or for additional information, visit www.lpea.coop.

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