WATT'S UP MAR 2022

LPEA La Plata Electric Association, Inc. A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

LPEA BOARD APPROVES

Ground-Breaking Partnership on our Future Power Supply



On February 16, 2022, the LPEA board passed a resolution allowing staff to finalize power supply contracts with Tri-State Generation and Transmission (Tri-State) and Crossover Energy Partners (Crossover). This historic collaboration between LPEA, Tri-State, and Crossover supports one of three future power supply options we've been exploring for several years and positions us to source roughly half of our power from our current power provider Tri-State and half from other sources.

"This is a breakthrough partnership that delivers substantially greener energy at lower costs while ensuring the reliability our members expect," said LPEA Board President John Witchel. "I am incredibly proud of the LPEA team and the extraordinary results their hard work has delivered to our community. I hope that other rural electric coops around the country will follow our lead to a more sustainable and resilient future."

With this partial contract option, LPEA and our members may achieve:

- Cost savings of \$7 million/yr
- An immediate 50% reduction of our carbon footprint.
- Continued reliability using Tri-State's established infrastructure.
- Enhanced resiliency through Crossover's regional generation resources.
- \$1 million in education grant funds for the local community.

"I want to thank our partners at Tri-State and Crossover for working with us on this ground-breaking, collaborative solution that meets LPEA's mission to

UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

We may owe you money!

LPEA is seeking current and former members who are due to receive Capital Credit refunds.



Call us at (970) 247-5786 or visit lpea.coop/capital-credit-refunds to see if you are on the list.

provide safe, reliable, affordable, lowcarbon electricity to our members," added LPEA CEO Jessica Matlock. "I also want to thank our members for their continued interest and feedback throughout this process."

Once the anticipated cost savings begin to accrue, the LPEA board will discuss how best to pass them on to members. Options could include rate decreases, the postponement of future rate increases, the increased retirement of Capital Credits to members, or increased funding for capital construction or fire mitigation projects to improve service reliability.

For more details on our exploration of future power supply options, including the latest updates, town hall materials, legal timelines, and FAQs, visit **Ipea.coop/powersupply.**

2022 LPEA ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. LPEA Durango Truck Barn (Bodo Park) Join us to hear the 2022 LPEA director election results, learn about LPEA's 2021 accomplishments, and participate in a live Q&A session. Snacks and door prizes will be provided. Virtual attendance options will also be available. **For more details visit Ipea.coop/annual-meeting.**

HEADS UP! DRONE INSPECTIONS ONGOING



BALLOT WATCH

Each year, LPEA's membership elects four representatives to the LPEA Board of Directors. Make sure YOUR voice is heard in the boardroom by voting for the candidate you feel best represents you.

Ballots will be mailed to all LPEA
members on Wednesday, April 4,
2022. Ballots must be received by mail
or dropbox by Wednesday, May 11,
2022, at 4:00 p.m. You may also drop
off your ballot in person at LPEA's 2022
Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 12
at 5:00 p.m.



Beginning in early February 2022, LPEA will be flying an aerial drone in

some areas of our service territory.

and poles to help us better identify

maintenance issues to improve the

safety and reliability of your electric service. LPEA has nearly 2,000 miles of overhead line and 40,000 poles, so the use of drones to survey our infrastructure will save significant

The survey work should be completed

questions, please contact our office

business hours. For more details visit

at (970) 247-5786 during normal

lpea.coop/construction-updates.

by July 2022. If you have any

The drones will survey our lines

time and costs.



With your help, we raised \$14,717.66 and assisted 527 members.

More info at lpea.coop/giving-tree

LPEA WRE

The latest news, services, programs, and resources from LPEA. Have a question or comment? Email us at comments@lpea.coop.



The agenda, access, and location details will be posted online in advance. Public comments are heard at the beginning of the meeting shortly after 9 a.m.

More at: lpea.coop/lpea-boarddirectors-resources



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LPEA committee meetings change regularly to accommodate board member schedules. For upcoming meeting dates and times visit: Ipea.coop/board-committees

*All meetings are open to the public. Depending on the latest guidelines around COVID-19, meetings may be held in person, virtually, or both. Visit Ipea.coop for the most up-to-date details.



The Round Up Foundation Board of Directors **approved five grants totaling \$18,500 in January.** Approved Round Up Grants were for the Animas Alano Club, In the Weeds, and Durango Education Foundation. Approved Education Grants were for Durango Education Foundation and Dancing Spirit Arts Center.