

## LPEA POWER SUPPLY UPDATE



Since our last update in November 2022, there have been some developments in LPEA's bid to secure more flexibility in our future power supply.

As a reminder, in April of last year, LPEA and our power provider Tri-State (together with two other electric cooperatives) filed a settlement with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which would allow LPEA to secure 50% of our power from Tri-State and 50% from other sources. This agreement represents

an innovative solution to an outdated power-supply model. But one entity did not agree, so FERC considered it a "contested settlement." Since we filed the settlement, we have been awaiting FERC's response and expecting approval.

But in late December of 2022, FERC leadership changed. When this happened, they declined to rule and sent the case back to the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to conduct further hearings. While we are disappointed with the further delay, we acknowledge that this is a fairly common practice when FERC reviews contested settlement agreements.

That said, this development is not slowing our forward momentum. All three prongs of LPEA's Power Supply Strategy, as initiated in 2019, are still in play.

**For the latest updates visit [lpea.coop/powersupply](https://lpea.coop/powersupply)**

## WE MAY OWE YOU MONEY!



LPEA is seeking members, or former members, who are due to receive Capital Credit refunds. Capital Credits represent each member's ownership of LPEA. They are the margins credited to

you based on your level of electric use the previous year.

As a not-for-profit utility owned by you, we return your Capital Credits when we can. The dollars become "unclaimed" when LPEA cannot locate members deserving of the refund within three years and are then invested in our local community through LPEA's various grant programs.

To see if we owe you Capital Credit monies, check the list on our website. If you or someone you know is on this list, call us at (970) 247-5786.

**More at: [lpea.coop/UCC](https://lpea.coop/UCC)**



*Simplify Your Spring*

Switch to paperless billing with LPEA and receive a one-time **\$5 BILL CREDIT!**

Scan the QR code here, visit [lpea.coop/paperless](https://lpea.coop/paperless), or call us at (970) 247-5786.



## Want to join LPEA's board of directors?

For more details and the application materials visit, [lpea.coop/elections](https://lpea.coop/elections)



## LPEA'S 2023 YOUTH TOUR DELEGATES

These four local high school students were selected to join 34 students from Colorado to participate in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. LPEA is proud to have them represent our co-op this year!

Katie Killinen from Bayfield High School. "I love traveling, meeting new people, seeing new places, and having new experiences. This leadership tour means so much to me because I get to do all that in one trip."



Devanté Montoya, Ignacio High School. "One opportunity used wisely can change your life dramatically."



Aisha O'Neil from Durango High School. "To me, attending the youth tour presents a unique opportunity to learn about my country and my own aspirations outside of my small community."



Rachael Berndt, Pagosa Springs High School. "I'm completely grateful to be given this incredible



opportunity to go on the LPEA Youth Tour! I'm beyond thrilled to explore new places and to dive deep into all kinds of history, culture, and experiences."

**More info at**  
[lpea.coop/lpea-youth-tour](https://lpea.coop/lpea-youth-tour)

## VEGETATION MANAGEMENT



In 2023, LPEA is stepping up our tree trimming and vegetation clearing to prepare for the wildfire and outage seasons ahead. If we plan to conduct work in your area, we'll send you a text in advance. You can also visit our construction page to see a map of all the active work in LPEA's service territory at [lpea.coop/construction-updates](https://lpea.coop/construction-updates).

LPEA's Vegetation Management Program is our first line of defense against outages and wildfires. Overgrown trees and other vegetation can interfere with power lines and equipment, causing outages, fires, and other safety hazards. We regularly inspect, trim, and remove trees and other vegetation that could interfere with our power lines to reduce these risks.

**Learn more about LPEA's Vegetation Management Program and how you can help at [lpea.coop/vegmgmt](https://lpea.coop/vegmgmt).**

❄️ **THANK YOU FOR POWERING IT FORWARD** ❄️  
**WITH LPEA'S GIVING TREE**

**With your help, we raised \$10,689.27 and assisted 137 members. More info at [lpea.coop/giving-tree](https://lpea.coop/giving-tree)**

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



### BOARD MEETINGS

Mar. 15 (virtual), Apr. 19 (hybrid)  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.\*

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-board-directors-resources](https://lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources)



### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LPEA committee meetings change regularly to accommodate board member schedules.

For upcoming meeting dates and times visit:

[lpea.coop/board-committees](https://lpea.coop/board-committees)

*\*All meetings are open to the public. Meetings may be held in person, virtually, or both. Visit [lpea.coop](https://lpea.coop) for the most up-to-date details.*



### LPEA GRANTS

The Round Up Foundation Board of Directors **approved four grants totaling \$13,840 in January.**

Approved Round Up Grants were for TARA Historical Society, and KUTE, Inc. Approved Educational Grants were for San Juan BOCES and Durango High School Parent Teacher Organization.