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LPEA Board of Directors Formally Censures Director John Purser for Code of Ethics Violation

DURANGO, Colo. – The Board of Directors of La Plata Electric Association, Inc. (“LPEA”) today announced that it has formally censured Director John Purser following an independent investigation that concluded Director John Purser violated LPEA’s Code of Ethics and Conduct (Policy No. 129) (the “Code”) by making inappropriate unauthorized contact and inquiries on behalf of LPEA without official authority to do so.

Investigation Findings

The Board established an Investigation Committee in July 2026 to oversee an independent investigation into concerns regarding Director John Purser’s conduct. The Committee engaged an independent third-party investigator and independent counsel to assist in the investigation into the reported conduct.

The investigator concluded that Director John Purser violated Section II.E of the Code, which prohibits directors and employees from individually conducting negotiations or making contacts or inquiries on behalf of LPEA unless officially designated to do so.

Board Statement

The Board has a duty to uphold the standards established in the Code and to promote accountability among all directors and employees. This action reflects the Board’s commitment to ensuring all directors comply with the Code and their fiduciary obligations to LPEA and its members.

Consistent with Colorado law (C.R.S. § 40-9.5-108), the censure is reflected in the minutes of the open session of the Board meeting at which the resolution was adopted.

LPEA Board President, Nicole Pitcher, said: “Harassment, intimidation, and other forms of misconduct by any LPEA Board member will not be tolerated. Safety is our priority. We have zero tolerance for any threatening behavior that makes our employees or members feel unsafe, or potentially fearful for their job.”

Board Actions

After reviewing the investigator’s findings and conclusions, the Board unanimously adopted the

Investigation Committee's findings and took the following actions:

- Formally censured Director John Purser for violating Section II.E of the Code of Ethics and Conduct;
- Required Director John Purser to complete supplemental training on director responsibilities and the Code of Ethics within 60 days, with the specific training program to be determined by the Board President;
- Prohibited Director John Purser from initiating direct contact with any employee outside of Board or Committee meetings for a period of one year, with necessary communications to be routed through the Board President or a designated Board officer; and
- Released this official statement from the Board.

Director's Rights

Director John Purser retains the right to attend and participate in Board and Committee meetings, receive Board communications, and access information reasonably necessary to fulfill his fiduciary duties as a director of LPEA.

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About LPEA

La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) is a locally owned, member-governed electric cooperative serving approximately 37,000 homes and businesses across Southwest Colorado. As an independent co-op, LPEA is committed to keeping power reliable and affordable while ensuring members have a direct voice in how their energy future is shaped. LPEA serves a diverse region, from rural communities and Tribal partners to growing towns and businesses, each with different energy needs. Whether members are focused on keeping the lights on, managing their bills, or adopting new technologies like solar and battery storage, LPEA is working to meet them where they are. In 2026, LPEA joined the Southwest Power Pool, expanding access to a broader mix of energy resources to strengthen reliability, reduce costs, and support a cleaner, more flexible energy future, while keeping decisions local. Learn more about LPEA at lpea.coop.