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**FOR IMMEDIATE
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The LPEA Board Approves Retiring \$1 Million in Capital Credits to LPEA Members

Durango, Colo. — (October 21, 2026) - The La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) Board voted to retire \$1 million in capital credits. Capital Credit refunds will be issued to members who were part of the cooperative in 2003 and parts of 2004. These refunds will be based on the amount of electricity used during those years. Members entitled to refunds over \$100 will receive a check in the mail, while amounts under \$100 will be applied as a credit on their electric bill in December 2026.

LPEA, a not-for-profit utility, is dedicated to delivering electric services to its members as close to cost as reasonably possible. However, any payments made by members that exceed the cost of providing electric service are allocated to a Capital Credit account in each member's name. When financially feasible, LPEA returns these Capital Credits to its members through the CashBack program.

"Our goal as a cooperative is to serve our members, not maximize profit" said Chris Hansen, LPEA CEO. "When our members pay their electric bills, they are also investing in our shared system, and we are proud that we can give that value back to the people we serve."

The decision to retire Capital Credits and the amount retired is determined annually by the LPEA Board of Directors, based on the cooperative's financial circumstances. This year, the board has chosen to retire using the "first in, first out" (FIFO) method. This approach allows LPEA to return some of the remaining capital investment to its longer-tenured members.

Visit LPEA's website at lpea.coop to learn more about Capital Credit refunds.

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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.