

RENEWABLES AND RELIABILITY: CAN THEY CO-EXIST?

Each year, the majority of LPEA members experience one power outage or less. That means we keep the lights on in your home or business 99.998% of the time. To achieve this, we closely monitor power outage frequency and duration, and address problem areas with system upgrades or additional maintenance.

But maintenance on LPEA's transmission and distribution network is only half of the reliability equation. The other half is power supply, because before we can deliver you electricity, it must be generated.

As LPEA explores new power supply options to deliver you affordable, low-carbon power into the future, there is one thing we will never sacrifice: reliability. You depend on electricity every hour of every day, and LPEA's future power supply must support that.

Renewable resources will play a large role in LPEA's future power supply mix, but in the near-term other dispatchable generation will also be needed. Dispatchable generation typically uses a fuel, like natural gas, that can be turned on and off as needed to meet your electricity needs.

To maximize the use of renewables in LPEA's future power supply – without sacrificing reliability – we are currently implementing a Distributed Energy Resource Management system. Through this system, devices like electric vehicle chargers, programmable thermostats, and water heaters can be managed to align their energy consumption with times of plentiful renewable generation without inconveniencing you, our members.

In the future, LPEA will receive some of our power from local generation resources connected directly to our system, but LPEA will also receive power from the Bulk Electric System to ensure the diversification and redundancy needed for reliable power delivery. This is necessary to avoid situations, like the one that occurred in California last summer, where demand for electricity exceeded the generation that was available at the time.

In short, through careful planning and resource diversity, you will continue to receive the same reliability LPEA is known for, regardless of future power supply selection.

For more information on LPEA's exploration of future power supply options, [visit: lpea.coop/powersupply](http://lpea.coop/powersupply)



DO WE OWE YOU MONEY? CHECK OUR LIST TO SEE!

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 we are a non-profit utility owned by you, we return your Capital Credits as we are able. 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/capital-credit-refunds](http://lpea.coop/capital-credit-refunds)

SIMPLIFY THIS SPRING

De-clutter your life this spring and go paperless! Switch to paperless billing in March or April and we'll **ENTER YOU**

TO WIN one of many fun prizes, including gift cards, electric outdoor equipment, and LPEA bill credits. To go paperless and win, [visit lpea.coop/paperless](http://lpea.coop/paperless) or call us at (970) 247-5786.



NEW EV CHARGING STATION IN BAYFIELD-FREE THROUGH LABOR DAY 2021



Bayfield residents and visitors alike now have free, 24/7 access to a local electric vehicle charging station, thanks to a partnership between the Town of Bayfield and LPEA. Located in the Bayfield Town Hall parking lot, the

Level II charging station is half a mile from Highway 160, one of the EV charging corridors identified by the Colorado Energy Office. The station allows up to two vehicles to charge simultaneously and can deliver a full charge in approximately four hours.

“In the past, we would receive inquiries regarding access to local EV charging stations, and we would have to tell people to go elsewhere,” said Bayfield Town Manager Katie Sickles. “With the new charging station, we gain the opportunity to market our community to visitors and to provide a valuable service to locals as well.”

The project was funded by a grant from Charge Ahead Colorado, and by LPEA, to support the future of electric vehicles in the area. The station is open 24-hours a day and will be free of charge until Labor Day 2021. After that, it will cost 26 cents per kWh between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. (On-Peak hours) and 6.2 cents at all other times.

LPEA'S BOARD CANDIDATE PACKETS

2021 Board Candidate Packets are available on our website and due May 3rd. Qualified candidates will be added to the official ballot sent to all LPEA members in mid-May. Election results will be announced during a partial virtual Annual Meeting on June 17th, 2021.

[More at: lpea.coop/board-director-candidate-information](https://lpea.coop/board-director-candidate-information)



Outdoor Electrical Equipment

REBATES

Cleaning up your yard this spring? LPEA will rebate you up to 25% of the price of an electric lawnmower, leaf blower, pruner, or chainsaw.

For more details visit lpea.coop/lpea-rebate-programs.



Ticket to SAVINGS!



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



NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

March 10th and April 21st

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

More at: lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources



NEXT FINANCE + AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

April 15th

(March meeting canceled)
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

More at: lpea.coop/board-directors-committees



NEXT BROADBAND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

March 9th and April 13th
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

More at: lpea.coop/board-directors-committees

**All meetings are open to the public and live streamed.*



LPEA GRANTS

The Round Up Foundation Board of Directors **approved three grants totaling \$8,000** in January for the Cancer Coalition of Southwest Colorado and Music in the Mountains.