

CNMEC

Newsletter

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



The power of human connections

Distributive Generation Member Meetings

February 2019

In 2006, Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative energized its first distributive generation facility. As of 2018 we have more than 250 similar facilities in place throughout the cooperative territory. This represents over 2,000 kW of renewable generation or about 2 megawatts of generation. To put that in to perspective, CNMEC's total peak load is 45 megawatts and that 2 mw's is growing every day which is just over 2.5% of our total load.

CNMEC will be starting the planning stages of a couple of member meetings at a predetermined place and time to begin an open dialogue concerning distributive generation facilities. The purpose of these meetings is to encourage a discussion concerning member owned qualified facilities, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Rules and how we apply those rules accurately when we process excess generation for billing purposes. CNMEC will explain our current processes for these specific accounts in which DG customers are handled for purposes of the excess generation. More specifically, CNMEC will consider input and options to assure that both DG customers and non-DG customers are treated fairly and in a manner that does not involve any cross-subsidies from one or the other groups. Our goal is to work towards a middle ground between both parties. We will discuss how rates are structured and briefly explain NMPRC Rule 570 which was designed for DG customers. Member participation is welcome, and we can discuss options and allow for comments.



Matthew Collins
CEO

We anticipate two meetings to be held in two different locations. Depending on interaction and dialogue there may be a need for more meetings and discussion. Conducting the meeting, CNMEC will have Staff and myself in attendance including some Board members. These meetings will be open to all our members, not only those with distributive generation facilities.

Please stand by for dates, times and locations for the proposed meetings.

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Downed and Dangerous

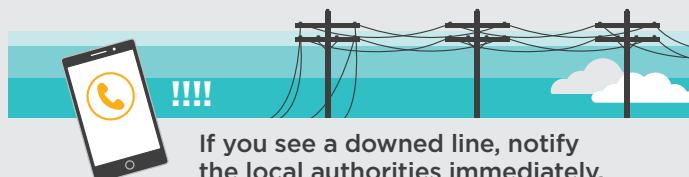
If you see a downed power line, always assume it is energized and dangerous. Avoid going near it or anything in contact with the power line.



Downed power lines can energize the ground up to **35 ft.** away - so keep your distance.



Never drive over a downed line or through water that is touching the line.



If you see a downed line, notify the local authorities immediately.



Never try to move a downed power line, even if you think the line is deenergized or if you're using a non-conductive item - this will not prevent injury or death!

Source: ESFI.org

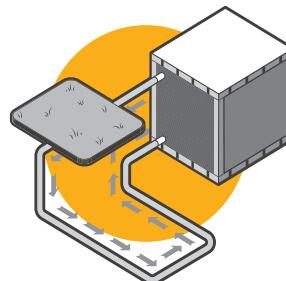
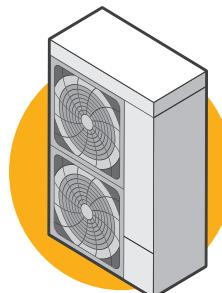
Types of Heat Pumps

There are three main types of heat pump systems. Use the information below to determine the system that's best suited for your climate and home.

Air-Source Heat Pumps

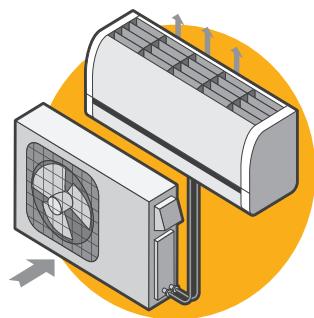
- Most commonly used heat pumps
- Moves heat rather than converting it from a fuel like combustion heating systems do
- Can reduce heating costs by about 50 percent when compared to baseboard heaters or electric furnaces
- Newer, more efficient systems now represent a legitimate space heating alternative in colder regions like the Northeast and Midwest.

Note: If temperatures in your area drop below 10 to 25 F, you will need an auxiliary heating system (depending on the size of the system).



Geothermal Heat Pumps

- More expensive to install but provide more energy savings for heating and cooling
- Move heat through pipes buried underground
- When compared to a conventional heating system, can reduce energy use by 25 to 50 percent
- Effective in extreme climates
- Not ideal for smaller lots and certain soil conditions



Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pumps

- Easier to install, quiet, small in size
- Flexible for heating and cooling individual rooms and smaller spaces
- No energy loss through ductwork, which accounts for more than 30 percent of a home's energy use for space heating/cooling.
- Installation can be pricey, but federal incentives may be available

Heat pump systems should be installed by a licensed professional. Contact your local electric cooperative for more information about options and potential incentives.

Sources: Dept. of Energy and Consumer Reports

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Laundry Tip: Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter-weight clothing. You'll spend less time running the dryer for lighter-weight items, which saves energy.

Source: energy.gov

