



Our Roots Run Deep-

Cooperatives are member owned, board governed, and employed by those who have deep roots in the area.

Unfortunately, many of the members who played a vital role in bringing electricity to our area and experienced firsthand the rural electrification movement are no longer here to share. However, their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are. As each of these generations flourish, electricity is now viewed as a logical expectation—when we flip the light switch, the lights will come on.

Alena Brandenberger
General Manager/CEO

As our way of life shifts toward electrification, demand increases. However, as we convert more energy generation to wind and solar due to carbon emissions requirements, utility experts have alerted those in decision-making roles that closing coal-fired and gas plants—known as dispatchable resources—will not meet future demand.

On the positive side, because we are rooted in the communities we serve, we are up to the challenge. As cultural business and service structures change over the years, Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CNMEC) continues to welcome its members into our lobbies and through our offices as we safely provide electric distribution services to our members on a not-for-profit basis.

CNMEC was incorporated in 1945. The first line was energized in 1949. We started with only a handful of meters and have grown over the years to nearly 20,000 meters today. CNMEC is the fourth largest electric cooperative in New Mexico. Our service territory is complex as CNMEC has 66,577 poles spread over 11 New Mexico counties within our 9,312 square miles in the central portion of the state. This stretches from almost I-25 and Lamy to the east Mountains at Edgewood and the Valencia County Line to our far eastern side that extends almost to Santa Rosa, down 30 miles north of Roswell and just a few miles north of Carrizozo.

CNMEC continues to sustain financial strength as it grows and works towards plant maintenance, replacements and new builds. We are also dedicated to improving broadband availability in our area, though it will take time to develop and deploy, as we work through the various grant programs in doing so.

INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE

The energy industry is changing, but electric co-ops are known for adapting to their local members' needs. As we plan for changes and challenges ahead, innovative solutions are essential.

Here are a few ways we're innovating for the future.



Use of Advanced Technologies

Drones aid in power line inspection and maintenance.

Smart meters provide real-time data and help pinpoint service issues.

Preparing for Increased Energy Use

The demand for electricity is increasing as more technologies are electrified.

Co-ops are exploring innovative solutions like battery storage to meet demand.

Energy Solutions for Members

Co-ops provide innovative efficiency services like appliance rebates and flexible billing options to help members manage their energy use.

Strength in Numbers

By working with and learning from other co-ops, we are uniquely positioned to improve service for our local communities.

Making the Switch to ELECTRIC LAWN EQUIPMENT

Considering electric equipment to maintain your outdoor space? Check out the benefits of electric and considerations before making the switch.



Source: Consumer Reports

Benefits of Electric Equipment

- Battery-powered equipment produces zero emissions
- No hassle and mess from gasoline and oil
- Quieter and more reliable than gas-powered equipment
- Require less energy to do the same amount of work as gas-powered tools

Considerations Before Going Electric

- Purchasing from a single brand can streamline charging
- Consider the size of your property and battery run time
- Backup batteries may be needed for larger properties
- Electric equipment is pricier up front

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Looking for an easy way to manage home energy use? Smart plugs are inexpensive and offer convenient solutions for scheduling and controlling your favorite electronic devices.

With smart plugs, you can easily manage your coffee maker, lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. Smart plugs can help you manage devices through a smart phone app, your home assistant or voice control. By conveniently powering off or scheduling devices, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: energystar.gov

