

FEC POWER

Source

Vol. 26 No. 03

Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Nominating Committee Reports for the 2022 Annual Meeting

District No. 2, (Melrose), and District No. 7, (San Jon/Logan) Nominating Committee meetings were held during the month of February, 2022.

District No. 2 Committee, as appointed by the Board of Trustees, met at Melrose Tire & Restaurant on February 21, 2022. Following deliberations, **Ernest Riley** was nominated by the committee to represent District No. 2.

District No. 7 Committee, as appointed by the Board of Trustees, met at Del's Restaurant in Tucumcari on February 25, 2022. Following deliberations, **Donnie Bidegain** was nominated by the committee to represent District No. 7.

My Co-op

Furthermore, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Cooperative, any qualified member of the Cooperative residing in Districts 2 or 7 wishing to be on the Annual Meeting ballot as a candidate, may do so by petition. Article IV, Section 3 (d) reads, "Any fifty (50) members, in good standing with the Cooperative, residing in a district from which a trustee is to be elected, may make nominations by petition for a trustee from that district, providing such nominating petition is filed in the principal office of the Cooperative not less than 20 days prior to the annual meeting."

The filing deadline this year is **April 22, 2022**. If you have any questions, or wish to have more information regarding the proceedings, please call Lance Adkins at the Cooperative's Clovis office at 800-445-8541 or 575-762-4466 or by email at lance@fecnm.org.

Annual Meeting Information

We look forward to visiting with you on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at the Cooperative's 84th Annual Meeting of Members. The meeting will be held in Fort Sumner, New Mexico, at the Fort Sumner High School gym. Door prizes will be awarded and lunch will be served following the business meeting.

Because Farmers' Electric is locally owned and operated, your involvement is crucial. Mark your calendar today and plan to attend the Annual Meeting of *your* cooperative.



- Registration: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.
- Reports of Officers, Trustees, and Committees
- Election of Trustees from Districts 2 and 7
- Door Prizes for adults and children

Lunch will be served following the business meeting (approximately 11:30 a.m.)

Manager's Message...



Lance Adkins, GM

plants, wind farms and other sources becomes insufficient to meet customer demand, SPP begins emergency operations. During a power emergency when electric supply cannot meet consumer demand for electricity and all other operational tools have been exhausted, the demand for electricity must be reduced to avoid uncontrolled blackouts. As a last resort, SPP will instruct electric utilities to implement controlled customer outages to reduce the customer demand for electricity on the grid. This is referred to as load shed and will last until the power emergency is resolved.

Typically, before calling for controlled customer outages, SPP takes steps to reduce the demand on the electric grid by asking customers to voluntarily reduce electric usage. When voluntary reductions are not sufficient, electric utilities are obligated to immediately implement load shed procedures when SPP instructs.

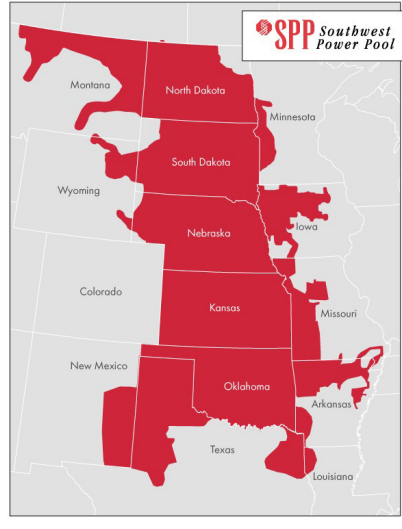
During customer load shed events:

- All customers should assume their power could go out without advanced warning. Efforts will be made, as much as possible, to provide advanced notification of pending outages, but circumstances do not always allow that to happen.
- Customers designated as Critical Load are not guaranteed an uninterrupted supply of electricity. It is the responsibility of the retail customer to make necessary arrangements for alternative sources of electric power should a localized outage or load shed event occur.
- Residential customers dependent on electric-powered medical equipment are encouraged to have a solid back-up plan in the event they lose electricity. It is important to note that these customers are not excluded from controlled

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Controlled Customer Outages... What Does That Mean?

Farmers' Electric receives wholesale electric power through the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) bulk transmission system (grid). The SPP is responsible for ensuring that the supply of electricity is sufficient to meet customer demand (load) for electricity. When electric supply provided by all available power generation



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We are on-call 24 hours each day, 365 days each year, to serve your electric power needs

To Report an Outage Call:
Clovis
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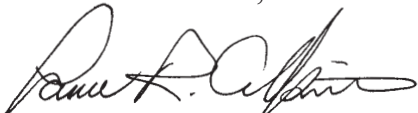
LOAD SHED *from* PAGE 2

outages and may lose power during a load shed event. Anyone who depends on electricity for life-sustaining equipment should have a back-up plan in place.

- Please contact Farmers' Electric for information about how to apply to be considered a critical care residential customer, a critical load industrial customer, or critical load.
- Electric utilities will prioritize continuity of service for certain customers whose service is critical to the community during an emergency or those whose service provides major support to the integrity of the electric system during an emergency. Examples include hospitals, major airports, and 911.
- Because a load shed event is an emergency order from SPP based on a shortfall of electricity being generated, electric utilities do not have the information to be able to notify individual customers if they may lose power, when they may lose power or how long the load shed event may last.
- Electric utilities are required to continue to comply with SPP controlled customer outage instructions until SPP determines that outages are no longer required.
- Farmers' Electric's website, fecnm.org, has helpful (Hot and Cold Weather, and General Energy-Saving Tips) that provides examples for customers to reduce electricity use at times when involuntary load shedding events may be implemented, as well as saving energy and money year-round.

Regardless of the nature of the load shedding event, Farmers' Electric Cooperative is committed to ensuring the safe and reliable delivery of electricity to its customers 24-hours-per-day, 7-days-per-week. While the cooperative may not control the issues or conditions that have required SPP's order to shed load, we will do everything in our power to restore electricity when we are able to safely do so.

Unitl next month,



Is a Plug-In Hybrid Vehicle Right for You?

Here's a look at why a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle may be the right kind of car for your needs. For starters, electric cars do not appeal to everyone. Yes, there's the lure of tailpipe-free emissions. Even the most advanced electric cars on the market today drive distances of about 400 miles between charges. For drivers, a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) strikes an ideal balance between eco-friendly motoring and go-anywhere flexibility. Most commuters can drive to and from work on electric power alone, while the gas engine stands in reserve waiting for longer road trips.

How Plug-In Hybrids and Electric Cars Differ

Think of a PHEV as a vehicle that splits the difference between a conventional gasoline car and a fully electric vehicle. A PHEV can handle drives typically between 15 and 40 miles using electric power alone, after which a gasoline engine fires up and works in concert with the electric motor and battery pack to provide



relatively low fuel consumption. Though most PHEVs allow drivers to decide when they want to tap that electric power reserve, the transition to gasoline power is nearly seamless. PHEVs essentially start as gas-fueled cars. Pop the hood and you'll find a gasoline engine with an electric motor typically nestled next to it. Hidden under the back seat or somewhere in the trunk/cargo area, you'll find a battery pack that's larger than the shoebox-size one under the hood but not nearly as big as what powers a fully electric car. Outside, you'll find two small doors: one for fuel and one for electric charging. Most of today's PHEVs look just like their conventional gas-fueled counterparts, aside from that extra charging door, that is.

By contrast, an electric car discards the gasoline

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engine entirely. Electric vehicles (EV) can take a long time to charge on the Level 2 charges most owners will put in their garages; refilling a nearly depleted EV battery can take all day or night on a slower, level 2 charger. Level 3 chargers — like those rows of Tesla SuperChargers you may have seen at the end of parking lots along major highways — provide far more juice. However, Level 3 EV chargers do not get used in the typical residential installation because of the high cost. Also, they're far less common than gas stations.

Advantages of Plug-in Hybrids

For drivers, the most significant advantage of a PHEV is the ability to go anywhere with no need to stop for time-consuming charges. Once the battery depletes, a PHEV drives much like a conventional hybrid car. Its electric motor provides some assistance to the gas engine, saving fuel compared to a gas-only vehicle. Additionally, certain driving situations can provide charge to the battery, though not enough to add more than a mile or so of electric driving at a time.

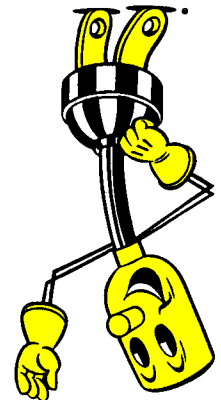
One other nice thing about a PHEV is that only the most discerning eyes will notice a difference between a PHEV and an equivalent gas or hybrid vehicle. A PHEV is perfect for eco-friendly drivers who don't necessarily want to make a big statement.

New Answering Service Provider

As of Monday, April 4, FEC will be utilizing the services of Cooperative Response Center (CRC) for our after-hours, weekends, and holidays answering services. CRC has been in the after-hours call services business for a long time and employs highly motivated, competent individuals who are going to handle all calls and callers promptly and professionally. They have five fully staffed call centers nationwide and have customers in 47 states.



We look forward to working together with CRC in this venture. We have full confidence that this new relationship will prove to be a long and valuable partnership.



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