

Member Information

Tri-State rate increase will be included in PCA

Effective Jan. 1, 2026, a Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) will go into effect on each of San Luis Valley REC's rate classes. The PCA amount is necessary to meet fluctuating wholesale power costs from our wholesale energy provider, Tri-State Generation & Transmission.

You will begin seeing this line-item on your bill in October, reflecting a zero charge. The actual charge will not be calculated and included on your bill until February 2026, billing for the electricity used in January.

A PCA is a billing adjustment that helps reflect and account for fluctuations in the cost of wholesale power, the electricity generated and purchased through Tri-State to serve you. It ensures that we can cover the actual cost of power without over- or undercharging our members. **It directly passes the actual cost of purchasing power to the members.** The cooperative does not profit from this adjustment.

See more in CEO Eric Eriksen's column on page 3.

Concern for Community

Local sponsors help bring new videoboard to Rex Field



Adams State University is proud to announce the installation of a new high-quality videoboard to enhance the game-day experience for players and fans.

Featuring a larger display with high-definition visibility and modern features,

See REX continued on Page 4

Have you signed up for SmartHub Paperless Billing?

Your life is busy and it can feel overwhelming to get organized and eliminate clutter from paper bills. Activate SmartHub Paperless Billing, the eco-friendly way to get instant access to your bill and declutter your life. Getting started with SmartHub Paperless Billing is as easy as 1-2-3.

If you haven't registered yet, download the app (see QR code on your bill) or visit our web portal to get started. Find the registration button on our home page at www.slvrec.com (Pay My Bill). You'll need your account number and an email address; you can find your account number on your bill.

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Member Information

Who owns what? Understanding electric equipment responsibilities

As the warmer months roll into shorter days and falling temperatures, it also brings the increased potential for severe weather. Storms can arrive quickly and hit hard, sometimes causing significant damage to essential electric equipment throughout our community.

San Luis Valley REC is always prepared to respond swiftly to outages and restore power safely, but it is also important for homeowners to understand which parts of the electric system are their responsibility and which are maintained by us at the co-op. Understanding these key differences can help speed up repairs and ensure everyone stays safe when the weather turns rough.

REC is responsible for maintaining and repairing the equipment and lines that run to your home, including utility poles, distribution power lines, electric meters and padmounted transformers.

REC members are responsible for the equipment located between the electric meter and your home or business, including any underground service lines that lead into the structure and the service panel. Members are also responsible for the weatherhead and service mast located outside the home, as well as the pedestal.

If any equipment that you (the homeowner) are responsible for is damaged, please call a licensed electrician to conduct the repairs. A professional has the experience and know-how to assess and manage these types of repairs.

When severe weather damages electrical equipment, it's important to note that any necessary repairs to the homeowner's equipment must be conducted before REC crews can restore power to your home or business. By understanding the equipment you are responsible for, the repair and restoration process will be smoother and faster.

Our community takes great pride in the beautiful trees and landscaping that contribute to the natural beauty where we live, however, regular trimming is essential to ensure reliable electric service and minimize damage from severe weather. REC regularly trims trees throughout our service territory to improve service reliability. If you spot a tree limb that is obstructing a distribution power line outside your home, please give us a call so we can trim those limbs and maintain those lines.

Any overgrown limbs or vegetation around the service line is the homeowner's responsibility, and in these cases, please call a professional tree trimming service to assist.

By working together to understand the essential equipment that powers daily life, we can all be better prepared to start the repair and restoration process if severe weather impacts our community.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

As winter approaches, now is the time to inspect your home for air leaks around windows. Leaks reduce indoor comfort and lead to higher heating costs.

If you can see daylight around the edges of a window frame or if a window rattles slightly when touched, air is likely leaking.

Caulking and weatherstripping are simple, effective methods for sealing windows. These materials are available in a variety of compounds and forms, each designed for different types of surfaces. Choose the right product and apply it properly to reduce heat loss, improve comfort and lower energy bills.

ciello THIS IS OUR WHY...

"...my neighbor cut my fiber optic line during construction of his new home. Within an hour of calling, a Ciello rep arrived. He informed me that he would do his best to get the Internet up and running as soon as possible - hopefully by the end of the day. If he could not obtain the necessary repair part by the end of the day, he assured me it would be fixed by the next day. At 6 pm that night he was repairing the line and my Internet was up and running. I am greatly impressed by Ciello's service and the friendly and efficient service techs!" -Kitty M. Creede

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Ciello is proud to feature testimonials from our satisfied customers in issues of the Newsboy. Send your testimonials to jalonzo@slvrec.com.



Eric Eriksen

Understanding the Power Cost Adjustment mechanism: What it means for your electric bill

As your trusted electric cooperative, we are committed to providing reliable and affordable energy while maintaining transparency in how your bills are calculated. Beginning in October, you will see a new component of your bill identified as “Power Cost Adjustment” (PCA). This mechanism reflects changes in the cost of purchasing wholesale electricity for you. Our biggest expense, wholesale electricity, changes month by month. Let’s explore what PCA is, why it’s necessary and how it impacts your monthly bill.

What is the Power Cost Adjustment?

The Power Cost Adjustment, or PCA, is a mechanism that allows us to adjust your bill based on fluctuations in the cost of purchasing electricity. It ensures that we can recover the actual costs of electricity without implementing a permanent rate increase. Think of it as a way to balance the scales when energy costs rise or fall.

The cost of purchasing electricity on your behalf can vary due to several factors, such as:

Wholesale Formulary Energy Rate: In August 2024, Tri-State, our wholesale energy supplier, received approval to implement a formulary rate design. This was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to ensure just and reasonable rates that are better aligned with the cost to generate and transmit power.

Weather: Weather varies your energy demand. A wet summer can decrease the demand for irrigation; or a colder winter

can increase the demand for heating.

System Losses: Energy lost during transmission and distribution across wires and transformers varies with demand.

How does it work?

Each month, we compare the actual cost of power per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to the base rate set in our pricing structure. If the cost of power is higher than the base rate, a small charge is added to your bill. Conversely, if the cost is lower, you may see a credit applied.

For example:

If the residential base rate is \$0.10 per kWh and the actual cost is \$0.11 per kWh, the PCA will add \$0.01 per kWh to your bill.

If the actual cost drops to \$0.09 per kWh, the PCA will credit \$0.01 per kWh back to you.

This adjustment ensures fairness by directly reflecting the true cost of energy, rather than locking in rates that might not align with the power market.

Why is the PCA important?

The PCA benefits both the cooperative and its members:

Transparency: It provides a clear view of how energy costs are affecting your bill.

Flexibility: It allows us to adapt to the changing cost of wholesale energy without overcharging or undercharging members.

Fairness: Members only pay for the

See PCA continued on Page 4

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephen Valdez, President
719-588-0430

Wade Lockhart, Vice-President
719-588-9246

Creede Hargraves, Secretary/Treasurer
708-638-0039

Keenan Anderson
719-849-8304

Carol Lee Dugan
719-588-4711

Scott Wolfe
719-588-0139

Email: power@slvrec.com

Your email will be forwarded based on the direction you provide in your subject line.

CEO

Eric Eriksen
719-852-6630

SLVREC Office (toll free)
800-332-7634

SLVREC Office (local calls)
719-852-3538

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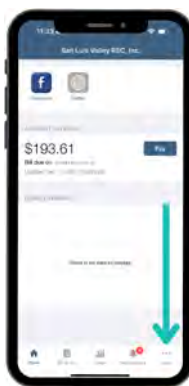
How to set up Paperless Billing:



Step 1: Open the **SmartHub** app on your mobile device.



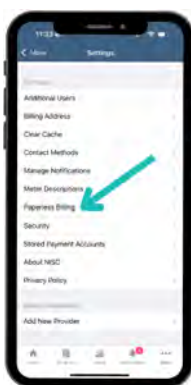
Step 2: Sign in to your account using the email address and password you set up during registration.



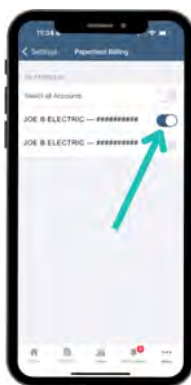
Step 3: From the home screen tap on the **More** button in the bottom right.



Step 4: Locate and tap on the **Settings** menu.



Step 5: Locate and tap on the **Paperless Billing** sub-menu.



Step 6: Locate the account(s) you would like to activate Paperless Billing on and **slide the toggle** to the right next to each account.



Step 7: A pop-up window will ask if you are sure you want to set the account to paperless. Tap the **Yes** button to confirm.



Step 8: You will then see a confirmation that the paperless bill status has been successfully changed.

REX

continued from page 1

the newest improvement to Rex Field was made possible through the generous support of local sponsors.

"This new scoreboard is a reflection of what we're building here for our players and our community," head football coach Levi Gallas said. "We're grateful to the sponsors who made this possible and can't wait to see it light up on game days."

The project was funded through the contributions of five sponsors:

Alamosa State Bank, Alcon Construction, First Southwest Bank, SLV Federal Bank, SLV REC/Ciello

"We are grateful for the incredible support from our sponsors who helped bring this project to life," athletic director Katelyn Smith said. "Our new scoreboard will improve the atmosphere on game day and serve as a lasting investment in the future of our football program."

The scoreboard officially debuted at the football home opener on Sept. 6.

PCA

continued from page 3

actual cost of power, ensuring equitable billing.

How can you manage your energy costs?

While the PCA reflects external factors beyond our control, you can take steps to manage your energy usage and keep your bills predictable:

Monitor/Control usage: Use energy-efficient appliances and turn off devices when not in use. Add smart thermostats.

Weatherproof your home: Proper insulation and sealing can reduce heating and cooling costs.

Consider Time-of-Use: If applicable, shift energy-intensive tasks to off-peak hours when rates may be lower.

Energy assessment: Enroll in the Electrify and Save

Program (slvrec.com/electrify-and-save) to schedule a free energy assessment and learn more about how you can save. We strongly encourage all members to take advantage of this money-saving program.

We're here for you

At SLVREC, we're committed to keeping you informed and empowered. The Power Cost Adjustment is just one of the tools we use to ensure fairness and transparency in your billing. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to our customer service team. We're always happy to help!

Thank you for being a valued member of our cooperative. Together, we're powering a brighter future.



Recipe of the Month

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (15 oz) can pumpkin purée
- 2 eggs
- 2 T. vegetable oil
- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 1-1/2 c. flour
- 2 t. baking powder
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1/2 t. salt
- 1 t. pumpkin pie spice

For the Streusel Topping:

- 1/4 c. flour
- 1/4 c. sugar
- 1 t. cinnamon
- 1/4 c. butter; softened
- 1/2 c. chopped nuts (optional)

PUMPKIN COFFEE CAKE

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Then, butter and flour an 8x8 or 9x9 square cake pan or baking dish.
2. Add the dry ingredients (flour, baking powder, salt, and pumpkin spice) to a medium mixing bowl and stir briefly to combine.
3. Place the streusel ingredients in a separate medium mixing bowl and stir until the mixture resembles coarse gravel.
4. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the pumpkin purée, eggs, vanilla extract, brown sugar, and vegetable oil until they are combined and smooth.
5. Sprinkle the dry ingredients into the bowl with the wet ingredients and stir until it is just combined. Do not overmix.
6. Pour the batter into the prepared baking dish, then scatter the streusel over top of the batter so that it is covered evenly.
7. Bake in a 350 F oven for 25-30 minutes, or until a cake tester or toothpick comes out clean after being inserted into the center of the cake.
8. Serve warm or at room temperature.

dishinthekitchen.com

Historical Happenings

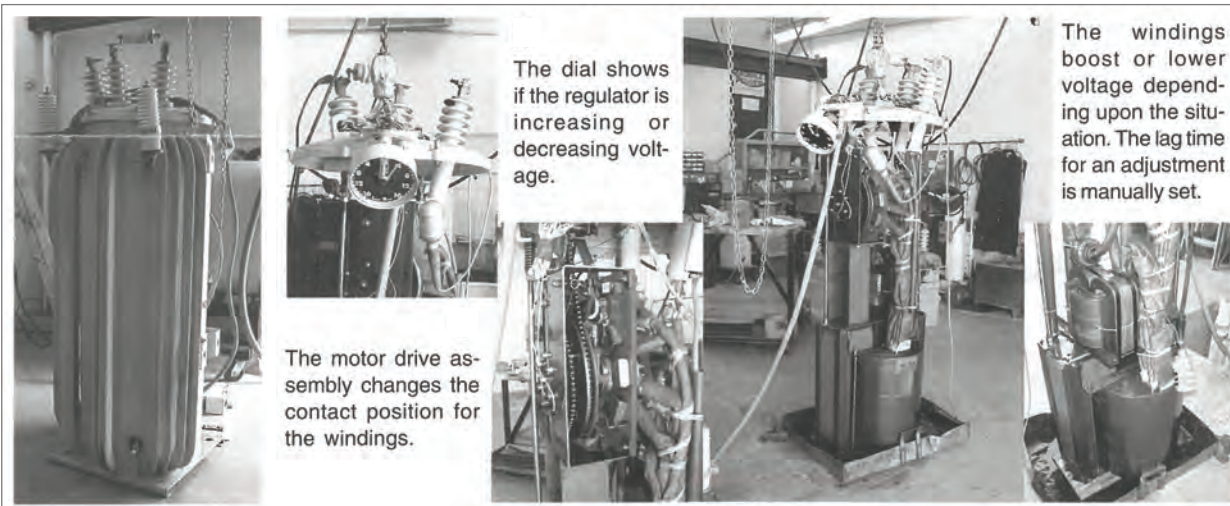
From the May 2002 Newsboy: What are those things?

Have you ever noticed all that equipment on SLVREC's lines? Perhaps you've seen one or more of the units pictured here and wondered what they do.

John Velasquez, substation technician, explained what a regulator does and how it works. A regulator's primary purpose is to maintain voltage in the lines at 7,200 volts.

Locations for regulators are chosen based upon the anticipated load in an area. When load is high, the

regulator makes up for the power lag and vice versa. It takes the system back to unity, helping to improve power quality. These electronically-controlled, oil-cooled mechanical devices use a feedback system to adjust voltage output.



The dial shows if the regulator is increasing or decreasing voltage.

The motor drive assembly changes the contact position for the windings.

The windings boost or lower voltage depending upon the situation. The lag time for an adjustment is manually set.

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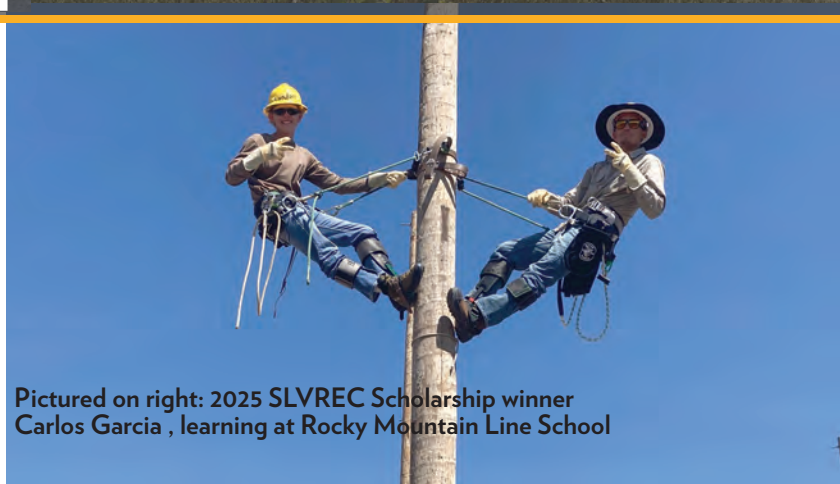
REC's office is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

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SCHEDULED MEETINGS
Board Meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025, 9:30 a.m.
The REC Board of Directors typically meets the last Tuesday of each month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome; advance notice required.

This institution is an equal opportunity employer.



Pictured on right: 2025 SLVREC Scholarship winner Carlos Garcia , learning at Rocky Mountain Line School