

CNMEC

Newsletter

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

YOU get the credit

January 2020

It's time for you to get the credit —capital credits, that is— for helping build, sustain, and grow your local electric cooperative. This year Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative will retire approximately \$500,000.00 to members like you across our service territory.

When you signed up to receive electric service from CNMEC you became a member of an electric utility. While investor-owned utilities return a portion of any profits back to their shareholders, electric co-ops operate on an at-cost basis. So instead of returning leftover funds, known as margins, to folks who might not live in the same region or even the same state as you do, CNMEC allocates and periodically retires capital credits (also called patronage dividends, patronage refunds, patronage capital, or equity capital) based on how much electricity you purchased during a year.



Matthew Collins
CEO

This year for the first time since 1990, members from 1965-1974 will receive capital credits retirements through a check in the mail, reflecting their contribution of capital to, and ownership of, the cooperative during those years. That may seem like a long time ago. However, those funds helped us keep the lid on rates, reduced the amount of money we needed to borrow from outside lenders to build, maintain, and expand a reliable electric distribution system, and covered emergency expenses.



ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

We're led by members like you. Which means we're not out to make money. Instead, we're building communities by listening to your needs. We're shaped by the people we serve.



Sealing air leaks in your home can save you 10% to 20% on heating and cooling bills.

Apply caulk around windows, doors, electrical wiring and plumbing to seal in conditioned air. You should also weather strip exterior doors, which can keep out drafts and help you control energy costs. Types of caulking and weather stripping materials vary, but ask your local hardware or home store for assistance if you're unsure about the supplies you need. For more information, the Department of Energy provides step-by-step instructions for caulking and weather stripping:

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Let the sunshine in! For additional warmth, open drapes over windows that receive sunlight during the day. Close them at night, which can reduce heat loss from a warm room up to 10%.

Source: energy.gov



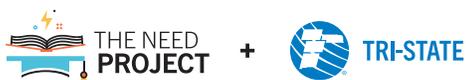
Science that Sparks: The NEED Conference

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, in conjunction with The National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project, offers a conference to provide educators with the most up-to-date information on all aspects of energy so they may implement hands-on lessons in their classrooms.

- June 23-25, 2020 at Tri-State headquarters in Westminster, Colorado
- Available to 4th - 12th grade teachers who are electric co-op members or teach electric co-op members
- Educators receive:
 - Hands-on Science of Energy kit for the classroom (\$300 value)
 - Professional development credit
 - STEM curriculum regarding the science of energy, sources of energy, electricity efficiency and more. The NEED Project has over 30 years of energy education and curriculum development experience
 - Assistance meeting math and language arts Common Core Standards
 - Most travel expenses are covered, including lodging, meals and transportation
- Apply at www.tristate.coop/NEEDapplication

For more information contact Wendi Moss, The NEED Project, at wmos@need.org or Michelle Pastor, Tri-State, at mpastor@tristategt.org.

4th-12th	3 days	most expenses paid
TEACHERS	LENGTH	COST



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Did You Know?

Electric cooperatives have retired \$17 billion to members since 1988 – \$1.2 billion in 2018 alone. Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues (called margins) are allocated and retired to members in the form of capital credits.

Source: National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation

