



Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.

UPDATE



November 2020



A Message From The CEO Roger Andrade

Annual Meeting Wrap-up

As I type this message, I find myself with a renewed sense of energy. Annual Meeting is now in our rear view mirror, and I feel extremely proud of all the employees at the Cooperative, and a special thanks to those that assisted in making it possible. There was a lot of thought and care put into making this year's annual meeting special and successful. As the Executive of the Cooperative, I especially felt an added pressure to make this event memorable, as it commemorated the Cooperative's 75th Anniversary. The meeting could not have been possible without the assistance of our trusted partners that, year-in and year-out, happily contribute to our annual meeting. This year, we felt it was prudent to curtail any outreach for donations, as we know the pandemic has affected every aspect of our industry and therefore, our partners. Nevertheless, some still reached out and were happy to contribute.

I was expecting the change of weather to take place in early to mid-October, but as of today, we are still seeing 90+ degree weather throughout our service areas. At any rate, I'm glad we are now entering the fall season and leaving the summer heat behind. As Theresa mentioned during our annual meeting, TOU rates concluded for the year, at the end of September, and I'm sure most of us welcome that, as well. Fall weather usually translates into reduced energy usage and therefore, lower electric bills.

Fall weather, as well as the month of November, brings the sense of the holiday season. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we can't help but take a moment to account for all the blessings that have been bestowed upon us. Even with the trials and tribulations the global pandemic has brought, we should be thankful. Thankful for being able to care for one another and mitigate the impacts of the infection. Thankful for those frontline workers throughout our service territory that get up every day and perform their jobs, in order for the rest of us to have what we need, whether it be in health care, home essentials, food, as well as our essential utility workforce. Those men and women on the frontlines have stepped up and delivered for all of us, they are true heroes. God bless them all.

At the Cooperative, we have jumped right back into the swing of things and by the looks of it, we will be busy through the close of the year. We have several system improvement projects going on throughout our service territory, such as the Terrell line rebuild, Continental system improvement, Pinto Canyon line relocation/rebuild, and Alpine transmission line insulator replacement, among other projects. On the privatization front, the Department of Defense project that we are performing through our national organization, NRECA, which is to create a micro-grid planning process for military bases is coming together after a few delays, due to the pandemic. The Cooperative is one of three cooperatives selected nationwide for this important project. Exciting times in Cooperative history!

I want to wish you all a happy Thanksgiving, and as you gather around to celebrate and give thanks, I hope that Rio Grande Electric Cooperative makes it on the list of things you'll be thankful for this year. I know it will for me! Thank you!