

2026 San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) Board Election

Tricia Savage Candidate Biography Answers – District #6

- 1) Please give a brief description of your background. Please highlight the traits, skills or experiences that you feel qualify you to be a San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) Board Representative.**

I hold a Mechanical Engineering degree with early work in renewable energy and Clean Air Act implementation as a state employee and consultant. That experience showed me both how well-intended policies can create unintended consequences, and how collaboration between government, businesses, and communities can achieve strong outcomes. After completing my MBA, I spent 20+ years improving transparency, aligning investments to outcomes, and delivering complex initiatives. Since completing our all-electric solar home in Ridgway in 2023, I have directly experienced how existing policies and rate structures apply to modern all-electric homes.

- 2) The mission of San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) is “to provide our members with safe, reliable, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible electrical service, while demonstrating both cooperative responsibility and support for the communities we serve.” Please share your opinion on what is the best way to fulfill this mission over the next four years.**

Fulfilling SMPA's mission requires balancing reliability, affordability, and responsible progress. As federal incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act and Colorado energy policies shape the industry, strong financial stewardship and transparent planning are essential. The cooperative model works best when members understand what drives rates, infrastructure investments, and long-term costs through clear communication and visibility.

- 3) Today's electric power industry is subject to many technological, environmental and political pressures. Describe your vision for San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) within this context.**

SMPA has a strong foundation in reliability and responsible energy. The opportunity ahead is to strengthen adaptability and resilience as regulations, technology, and administrations evolve rapidly. Colorado policies on electrification and distributed energy and wholesale power dynamics will continue to shift. SMPA should remain

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grounded in its mission while improving long-term planning, scenario analysis, and member communication so decisions remain stable, flexible, and well understood.

4) Please share any other thoughts, facts or ideas you'd like voters to consider while casting their ballot

While gathering signatures, I consistently heard strong alignment from members around the value of renewable energy and solar offset, along with frustration about limits on rooftop capacity and rate structures that affect their ability to offset usage. SMPA's net metering and interconnection polices, along with Colorado distributed generation rules (<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-261>), shape these outcomes. Since completing our all-electric solar home, I've seen how well-intended policies and rate structures can become misaligned with modern usage. Members need options, transparency, and clear information to make informed, cost-effective decisions.