

# ENERGYWISE

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Nucla, CO 81424  
(970) 864-7311  
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**Ridgway**  
720 N. Railroad St.  
P.O. Box 1150  
Ridgway, CO 81432  
(970) 626-5549  
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

**Both Offices Open:**  
M - TH • 7:00am – 5:30pm

[www.smpa.com](http://www.smpa.com)  
[www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower](https://www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower)

*In the event of a power outage, contact your local SMPA office to reach our 24-hour dispatch.*

## QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

[energywise@smpa.com](mailto:energywise@smpa.com)  
(970) 626-5549 x2120

## SAFETY TIPS

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH FOCUS TOPIC:  
LITHIUM-ION BATTERY RECYCLING

- ☒ Batteries in waste bins are a fire hazard
- ☒ Tape the terminals of expended batteries or place them in a separate bag
- ☒ Visit [Call2Recycle.org](http://Call2Recycle.org) to find a local recycling location.

San Miguel Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call

(866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

## FEATURE STORY

# Time-of-Use is Here!

As your member-owned electric cooperative, we're dedicated to keeping your power costs as low as possible.

Our new Time-of-Use (TOU) rate begins this month. You can contribute to keeping costs down (and potentially even save) by shifting discretionary, energy-intensive tasks to off-peak hours. This helps us manage overall demand and keep rates stable for everyone.

The rate offers members a discount on energy for 19 hours of the day, 11¢ / kWh (previously 13.5¢ / kWh). During the 5 hour "Peak" period of 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., members see a higher rate (22¢ / kWh). Here are a few strategies to optimize:

- Set the delay function on your dishwasher when loading after dinner
- Do laundry during off-peak hours
- Set EVs to charge off-peak (Scheduled charging usually included with EV)
- Take advantage of SMPA's EV Charging Equipment rebate.
- Charge outdoor power equipment batteries, e-bike batteries off-peak
- Explore SMPA's time-based-rate-friendly rebates
- Turn off work computer monitors at the end of the work day



## What's 1 KiloWatt-Hour?

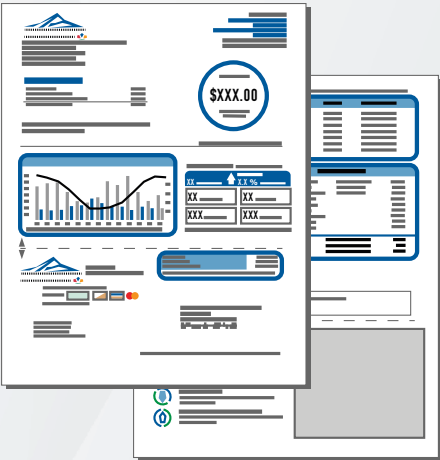
On 1 kWh, you can:

- Watch television for 10 hours
- Vacuum for 1 hour
- Wash 12 pounds of laundry
- Use a Laptop for 20 hours
- Power your refrigerator for 4 hours
- Get about 10 minutes of water heating (depending on the size of your tank)
- Use a 1000-Watt electric stove for 1 hour
- Use your 800-Watt microwave 15-20 times (depending on the average cook time)

# NEW, TWO-SIDED BILL FORMAT IS ON THE WAY.

We're introducing a two-sided bill format to give you the tools and information to best take advantage of our new time-based rates. It's another tool to help the membership take advantage of the new rate.

**Coming Soon!**



**Don't Lose Contact!** Have you changed your Phone Number or Email Address since signing up for service with SMPA? Be sure to let us know. We'll keep you up-to-date on your account information, member dividends status and any emergency alerts. Here's how:

- 1) Call 1-877-864-7311 between 7:30 AM & 5:30 PM, Monday through Thursday
- 2) ...in your SmartHub mobile app, tap "...more" --> "Settings"



email



phone #



address

# Totally Green & Green Blocks Participants, You Make a Difference!

The Green Fund supports renewable energy, home weatherization, and electrification projects in SMPA's service area. Funded by the Totally Green and Green Blocks programs, it strengthens community resilience by leveraging state and federal grants to multiply its impact.

This visionary initiative has enabled microgrid development, solar projects, and income-qualified weatherization efforts, positioning SMPA as a leader among rural cooperatives.

By participating, members power their homes with renewable energy while investing in a sustainable future. SMPA thanks you for supporting a greener, stronger community.



Above: The one-megawatt solar array in Paradox is one of SMPA's local renewable projects enabled by the Green Fund.

Right: IQ (CARE) participant with new cold climate air source heat pump

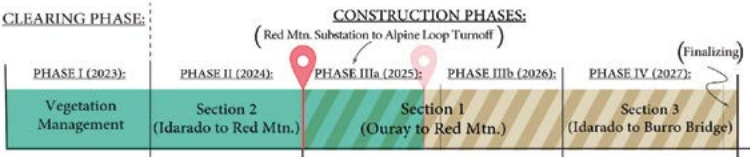


## Work to Continue on the Red Mountain Electrical Reliability & Broadband Improvement Project

Reconstruction of Red Mountain line from the Red Mountain substation to the Alpine Loop turnoff (South of Ruby Walls) as well as upgrades at the old Ouray substation and nearby structures are scheduled to take place this summer. The work will necessitate short-duration closures on Highway 550 as equipment and conductor are brought across the road.

There may also be tentative block closures in September, pending permit requirements. Work crews are planning to operate between Memorial Day and Labor Day. There's no scheduled work on the weekends, nor over the 4th of July holiday.

This project is designed to enhance power reliability in an area prone to rockfalls, avalanches and other natural interruptions. It will also contribute to the overall expansion of fiber-optic cable, adding high-speed communications options throughout the region.



LITHIUM-ION BATTERY SAFETY

HOW TO RECYCLE BATTERIES

1

Never place batteries in regular waste and recycling bins. They will likely catch fire.

2

To prevent fires, tape battery terminals and/or place lithium-ion batteries in a separate bag. Keep batteries segregated from other materials.

3

Recycling batteries is good for the environment, as the materials in the battery can be reused.

4

Putting batteries of any type in the trash may be illegal in some states.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

ESFI.org

www.esfi.org

www.recycledmaterials.org

## SMPA 2025 Board Candidates Announced

In 2025, the Board seats up for election are District #5, covering part of San Miguel County, including Mountain Village and Ophir, and District #7, covering parts of Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan and San Miguel Counties including Ouray and Silverton.

The date by which potential candidates were to have submitted 15 verified member signatures nominating them for candidacy, was April 3rd. By that date, only the incumbent director in District #5, Rube Felicelli, had turned in a completed packet with enough verified signatures. In District #7, only one candidate, Jake Kurzweil, had turned in a completed packet with enough verified signatures.

In both Districts, the sole candidates will be deemed elected per SMPA Bylaws. No ballots will be sent to voters in 2025.

## SMPA POWER PLAY

THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE:  
RUN F GEN D HEET  
Hint... Is four years enough?

Last Month's Answer: LINEWORKER TRAINING  
Last Month's Winner: Ms. Jeannine Casolari, Ridgway

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER and be entered into a drawing for a fun prize to:  
EnergyWise  
PO Box 1150  
Ridgway, CO 81432

## HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Our Offices will be CLOSED Monday, May 26th In Observance of Memorial DayBasic services always available at: [smpa.smarthub.coop/Login.html](http://smpa.smarthub.coop/Login.html)