

THE OUTLET

The Official Member Newsletter of CORE Electric Cooperative

January 2023

OUR ENERGY FUTURE

Arriving in 2023 ...

CORE Electric Cooperative has new services and offerings on the horizon. This year, we will continue to provide members The Energy to Thrive with **additional control, choice and convenience**. For the latest on these and other developments, look to our website – www.CORE.coop – social media channels and future editions of *The Outlet*.



Pre-pay options

Coming soon: Advance Pay, which will let you choose when, the amount, and how you pre-pay toward your credit balance. No deposits, no monthly bills and no due dates! Receive alerts when your balance runs low, then add to it easily and at any time via the SmartHub app or www.CORE.coop.



Electric vehicles

We will add public chargers throughout our 5,000-square-mile service area to help build out electric vehicle infrastructure. We also will launch a charge-at-home program through which we will install, maintain and support CORE-owned Level II chargers at eligible member residences.



System improvements

Upgrades to the grid will increase reliability, safety and capacity throughout our 5,000-square-mile service area. We also will continue to inspect lines and facilities, perform maintenance work and introduce new technologies to mitigate wildfire risk.

Also in 2023: No base rate increase; new wholesale power sources

Despite other utilities implementing widespread rate increases, **CORE does not anticipate the need for a general base rate increase this year.**

Also, we will soon announce **new wholesale power sources** that will replace Xcel Energy beginning in January 2026.

Our current wholesale power purchase agreement (PPA) with Xcel expires in December 2025. Under the arrangements currently in place, CORE's power

supply includes about 60% of its energy sourced from coal.

Our new power partnerships will bring a state-of-the-art energy portfolio that includes wind, solar and battery storage that will achieve our renewable resources goals.

This diverse portfolio will cut CORE's carbon emissions by at least 80% by 2030 while being more reliable and affordable than our current resources.

Cut your energy costs this year

The new year is a great time to update your energy habits and take steps in reducing your monthly energy bill. Some actions you can take immediately:

- Install a **programmable thermostat** or adjust your thermostat when you leave home.
- Use the **Colorado sun** to your advantage! In colder months, open your curtains during the day to naturally heat your home.
- Save energy by waiting until you have a **full load of dishes or laundry** before running your machines.
- Seal **any leaks** you find around chimneys, recessed lights in insulated ceilings and unfinished spaces.
- Clean or replace **filters** on your furnace, air conditioner and heat pump.

Notice of PURPA 111(d) standards consideration

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 created two new standards under the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act that certain utilities, including CORE, must consider adopting. The two standards relate to the promotion of demand-response and flexibility practices and electrification of transportation.

CORE's Board of Directors adopted a process to receive public comment as part of their consideration of these new standards. Questions and written comment from interested members may be submitted to CORE by email at childred@core.coop or by mail to CORE Electric Cooperative, Attn: PURPA Consideration, P.O. Drawer A, Sedalia, CO 80135. A public hearing will be held Thursday, May 18, 2023, at CORE's Sedalia office. Additional info is available at www.CORE.coop/purpa.

Reminder: Board elections in Districts 1, 2, 4 and 6 in 2023

This year, CORE Electric Cooperative will hold elections for the seats of Districts 1, 2, 4 and 6 on its Board of Directors.

Any CORE member interested in becoming a candidate for one of the four seats must **submit a written nomination petition between Jan. 22 and Feb. 21** to CORE Electric Cooperative, c/o Carrie Wedel, 5496 N. U.S. Highway 85, Sedalia, CO 80135. A printable nomination petition form is available at www.CORE.coop/director-elections.

The petition must be signed by at least 15 members of the cooperative, and designate the name of the nominee, district and term for which they are nominated. To be eligible, a candidate must:

- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Be a member of the cooperative;
- Purchase electric energy within the director district they are running; and
- Not be an employee of the cooperative.

Voting will start in late March. This year, for the first time in CORE's history, electronic voting will be available! Mailed ballots will also be sent by March 23 to members in any district in which there is a contested election. Completed ballots – electronic or printed – must be received by the independent election vendor no later than 5 p.m. Friday, April 21.

Eligible voters who do not vote electronically or via mail can vote in-person between 9 and 10 a.m. Saturday, April 22, before CORE's annual meeting at our headquarters, 5496 N. U.S. Highway 85 in Sedalia. Voting by proxy is not permitted in director elections.

Additional info, important dates and documents are available at www.CORE.coop > **My Cooperative** > **Leadership** > **Director Elections**. Questions can be sent to elections@core.coop.