

THE OUTLET

The Official Member Newsletter of CORE Electric Cooperative

February 2024

CORE's reliability improves

The reliability of CORE's electric service — already better than the industry average — improved in 2023.

Our System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI), or average outage duration in minutes for each member served, decreased from 92 minutes in 2022 to 63 minutes in 2023 — **an improvement of nearly 32%**.

CORE's SAIDI is about half the five-year national average of approximately 120 minutes, as reported by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Our Average Service Availability Index (ASAI) — the percent of time service was available over the 8,760 hours in 2023 — also improved, to 99.99% from 99.98% the previous year.

Robust vegetation management, additional line inspections and multiple system improvements helped CORE **exceed our 2023 reliability goals**. We will continue to set aggressive reliability goals as part of our commitment to providing our nearly 180,000 members The Energy to Thrive.



Though CORE's system continues to outperform much of the industry, it faces a variety of forces that cause occasional service interruptions. A look at our system's 2023 outage causes:

Equipment failure, 29%

This includes any CORE equipment that failed without an external cause. Common failures include transformers, underground cables and connections between overhead lines or service wires.

Weather, 19%

Wind, lightning and heavy, wet

snow are typically to blame for weather-related outages.

Public, 16%

This is almost entirely commercial "dig-ins" of our underground lines and motor vehicles colliding with poles or pad mounted-equipment.

Planned outages, 13%

These typically occur when lines must be de-energized to ensure maintenance and repair work can be done safely and quickly.

Vegetation, 11%

Vegetation includes tree growth

and windblown trees falling on our overhead lines.

Animals, 7%

Wildlife — typically birds or rodents — occasionally strays onto or into our equipment and damages it.

Power supplier, 4%

This includes both planned and unplanned outages of non-CORE transmission lines and equipment.

About 2% of our 2023 outages were attributed to other or unknown causes.

Young artists can help promote electrical safety

CORE invites students in grades 1 through 5 to help us promote electrical safety through our annual **Electrical Safety Poster Contest**.

One winning poster from each grade will earn its creator \$50, plus \$500 for books and supplies for their classroom. Artwork from all participants will be used as part of Electrical Safety Month in May. All artwork must include a tip, slogan

or message about electrical safety. It can be hand-drawn or digitally created, but must not include copyrighted images or content, or be created with the assistance of AI. The deadline to submit artwork is 5 p.m. Sunday, March 31.

Visit www.CORE.coop > **My Community > Electrical Safety Poster Contest** for additional info and entry form.



CORE annual meeting set for April 20

The **annual meeting of the membership of CORE Electric Cooperative** will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at CORE headquarters, 5496 N. U.S. Highway 85, Sedalia, CO 80135.

The meeting will include:

1. The presentation of reports covering the previous fiscal year.
2. All other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Registration is from 9 to 10 a.m. the day of the meeting.

Per Article IV, Section 10 of CORE's bylaws, a member may vote by written, signed proxy on all questions.

A printable proxy form is available at www.CORE.coop > **My Cooperative > Notices & Documents > Annual Meeting**. The presence of a member at the annual meeting revokes any proxy by that member.

Rate changes take effect with next month's bills

Changes to CORE Electric Cooperative's rates and regulations will take effect starting with March 2024 bills. The changes include increases to base rates, updates to several service fees, discontinuance of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) opt-outs and minor updates to other parts of the rates and regulations.

Residential members will see an average rate increase of approximately 3.3%. The monthly basic service charge will increase to \$17.25, and the "on-peak" demand charge will increase to \$3. The changes are necessary to allow CORE to continue to deliver safe, reliable power. In the

last decade, CORE's rates have gone up about 11%, even as inflation has grown 34% and our operational costs have increased 42%.

Even with the upcoming changes, **average bills for CORE residential members will remain lower than those of most other Colorado electric utilities**, many of which plan to increase rates by 8% to 10%.

Visit www.CORE.coop > My Cooperative > Rates and Regulations for additional information about CORE's rates, including a redlined version with all changes.