

THE OUTLET

The Official Member Newsletter of CORE Electric Cooperative

October 2026



October is National Cooperative Month

October is National Cooperative Month, a time to celebrate the unique value cooperatives bring to their communities. At CORE, **we're proud to be a member-owned electric cooperative.** That means we're not owned by investors or shareholders; we're owned by you and your neighbors, and we offer what we call "the co-op difference."

Local

Founded in 1938 by residents in the Bailey area, CORE has grown to serve more than 160,000 voting members, which makes us the largest electric cooperative in Colorado and one of the largest in the nation. Yet we still operate locally, and our employees live and work in the same communities we serve.

Through CORE's volunteer program, employees support local nonprofits and charities. We also partner with community programs, businesses and organizations to give back in meaningful ways. Initiatives like our Electrical Safety Poster Contest and Education Grants directly benefit local youth.

As your local cooperative, we're committed to delivering reliable electricity and responding quickly during outages. We invest in our grid to enhance system resilience and work to ensure an efficient and responsible power supply.

Member-owned

You have a voice in how we operate, including the opportunity to elect a fellow member to represent your district on CORE's Board of Directors. Each board

member serves a four-year term and helps shape the policies that guide our cooperative. No other utility model offers such a direct connection between the organization and the people it serves. Learn more about our Board of Directors at www.CORE.coop > My Cooperative > Leadership.

Not-for-profit

As a not-for-profit cooperative, we reinvest margins back into our infrastructure and raise rates only when absolutely necessary.

We also return capital credits to members whenever possible. This past September, **we returned \$10 million in capital credits to our members.** Over the past decade, we've returned more than \$110 million.

Each year, we calculate our operating margin — the difference between revenues and expenses — and allocate it to members based on their electricity use. When the board approves a retirement of these allocations, eligible members receive a check or bill credit. The amount depends on how long you've been a member and how much electricity you used during the retired years.

Capital credits represent your ownership share in CORE. They're tracked in a separate account and accumulate over time. Learn more at www.CORE.coop > My Account > Capital Credits.

Thank you for your membership. We are honored to provide you *The Energy to Thrive*.



Data centers and CORE

As demand for technology and digital services continues to grow, data centers have become increasingly important to the nation's infrastructure.

CORE Electric Cooperative is obligated to provide electric service within our service area, though service depends on whether our system has enough capacity and can continue to provide reliable service to existing members. Data centers must meet the same requirements as other large-load members before they receive service from CORE. Local agencies oversee issues such as land use, water use, environmental requirements and permits.

A common question is whether data centers increase electric rates for other members. The answer is no. CORE uses cost-based rates designed to assign costs to the members who create those costs. Data center developers are responsible for the costs for infrastructure required specifically for their projects. CORE also

implements minimum financial obligations and ramp schedules in service agreements to ensure cost recovery and mitigate additional risks.

CORE's top priority is to maintain safe, reliable electric service for our members. Every data center proposal undergoes a detailed engineering and financial review before service is approved. CORE evaluates transmission and substation capacity, power supply needs, reliability impacts and regulatory requirements to ensure new projects can be served without affecting service quality for existing members.

Data centers also contribute significantly to the fixed asset component of our utility rates, which helps CORE maintain and improve infrastructure for everyone.

Learn more about CORE's approach to data centers at **www.CORE.coop > News and Resources > Data Centers: FAQs.**

Annual meeting set for April 17, 2027

The annual meeting of the membership of CORE Electric Cooperative will be held at **10 a.m. Saturday, April 17, 2027**, 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. Election of directors.
3. All other business that may properly come before the meeting.

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

For more information, visit **www.CORE.coop > My Cooperative > Notices and Documents.**

New-look CORE.coop coming soon

As part of our focus on the member experience, CORE will launch a redesigned website in the coming months.

Available at www.CORE.coop, the redesigned website will have a more modern look and feel, improved navigation and enhanced accessibility.

The redesigned website will retain all of the current site's most important features, including access to the SmartHub account management platform, member and contractor resources, CORE news and other cooperative information and content.