

ENERGY WISE

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YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



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Both Offices Open:
M - TH, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

www.smpa.com
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

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HARVEST SAFELY!

Failure to notice overhead power lines while harvesting can be a deadly oversight:

- Always use a spotter when operating large machinery near lines.
- Use care when raising augers or grain truck beds around power lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from lines-at all times, in all directions.

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.

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(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.intakeusda.gov.

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The Power of Words: SMPA's Felicelli Mans the Mic for KOTO Community Radio

Non-profit, non-commercial Radio Benefits from Donations & Co-op Match



Guest D.J., Rube Felicelli and KOTO Development Director, Geoff Hanson discuss the challenges of maintaining a community-run, non-profit radio station without commercials or underwriting for funding. "KOTO uses what money it must to stay in operation," says Felicelli, who is also the SMPA Board President, "but its primary mission is one of service to its community. That's a model that's very familiar to us in the electric cooperative world."

"Good afternoon! I'm Rube Felicelli, your guest D.J. for the next two hours and I want to start by thanking you all for this opportunity to raise funds for this truly unique station."

That's what KOTO listeners would have heard if they had been tuned in at 3 o'clock on Friday, August 18th. Over the following two hours, Felicelli, along with KOTO D.J., Mark Dollard kept the energy high with a custom music mix, fun repartee and even a surprise studio jam session with celebrity cellist, Ben Sollee. By the time the show ended, Felicelli had raised over \$1,600 in donations to support the community-run, non-profit radio station.

A big part of the incentive for listeners was the chance to double the impact of their donation dollars. During Felicelli's show, every donation was matched by

San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) up to \$1000. That brought the total benefit to the station up to \$2600.

KOTO has been in operation at its Telluride location since 1975, and runs completely commercial-free. Its signal reaches Telluride, Mountain Village and Ophir as well as down valley to Norwood, the West End of Montrose County and even beyond the Utah border.

Unlike other community radio stations, KOTO also operates without underwriting. It generates all its revenue through a short fund-raising season, of which the Guest D.J. shows are a part.

"The experience was awesome," said Felicelli. "To be able to help support this station, which is, kind of, the lifeblood of these communities, was a real honor."

The Gravity of the Situation

Our linemen are basically professional athletes when it comes to doing their job. These photos show our crew restoring the power line tie over Red Mountain Pass. Our guys scaled approximately 300 feet up a rock wall, traversed a Via Ferrata-like access to the pole and made the repair which was nearly a thousand feet above the Uncompahgre River Floor below. All this with 50+ pounds of equipment and safety gear. This is what it looks like to keep the lights on in San Miguel Power Service Territory.





Hunt Safely Near Utility Power Lines

The clearings created by utility rights of way can lure game and hunters into a dangerous spot. Always be aware of what's behind your target, and keep electrical lines and equipment out of your sights!



Member Appreciation Days

••• Visit Us! •••
We celebrate National Cooperative Month by celebrating YOU.

Oct. 3-5 • SMPA Offices • 8 am - 4pm



Are You Concerned about Your Community's

Carbon Footprint?

Utility and municipal efforts to reduce consumption serve as a good example, but the majority of the average community's carbon footprint is created by commercial and residential demand. Here are five low-cost measures you can take to reduce your part of our overall carbon footprint:

1) Upgrade Lighting: Replace your incandescent and halogen light bulbs with CFLs or LEDs. The US Department of Energy estimates that by 2027, widespread use of LEDs could save about 348 Terawatt Hours (compared to no LED use) of electricity. SMPA rebates at smpa.com→efficiency.

2) Unsubscribe Junk Mail: It is estimated that the energy used to produce, deliver and dispose of junk mail produces more greenhouse gas emission than the annual emissions from 2.8 million cars. There are a variety of websites that can unsubscribe for you for a small fee. (see www.41pounds.org)

3) Seal up: According to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, up to 25% of winter heat is lost through windows. Weather-stripping, caulking, and insulating improves comfort and saves money.

4) Take Alternate Transportation: If one million people replaced a five-mile car trip once a week with a bike ride, we'd reduce CO₂ emissions by about 100,000 tons per year.

5) Compost: Composting saves the transportation of food to landfills and allows food to decompose aerobically avoiding the creation of methane gas.

Get more tips at www.ecoactionpartners.org/reduce-your-carbon-footprint/

Kill-A-Watt

Want to know where you're wasting energy? Measure the efficiency of your home appliances yourself with a Kill-A-Watt electricity usage monitor. (Available for check out at your local library)

Simply plug in an appliance to the monitor and it will display the power consumption by the kilowatt-hour. You can figure out your electrical expense by the day, the week or longer.



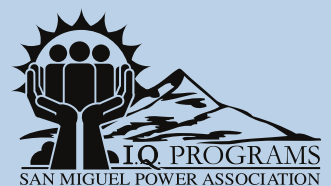
Telluride trail users, please be aware that the Galloping Goose Trail is closed from Lawson Hill to Ilium Road from 6 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday. The trail will be open on the weekends.

Please observe all posted signs as they are to ensure safety while construction of the Telluride / Mountain Village Reliability Project is under way. This project will allow power to be restored much more quickly after equipment failure or damage from natural events.

Update: Tri-State Contracts Committee to Review SMPA/LPEA Request

Here is a follow-up on our June newsletter front page article, "SMPA Seeks Tri-State Policy Change on Local Generation" which reported that the SMPA Board had formally requested that Tri-State consider allowing flexibility on the contractual 5% cap on locally-generated energy.

In response, Tri-State has moved up a scheduled meeting of their contracts committee from 2022 to 2019, allowing time for representatives from SMPA & neighboring co-op, La Plata Electric Association to convince other members of the Tri-State Board to see the overall value of such a move. "We'll be working hard to make our case to our fellow member systems," said SMPA / Tri-State Representative, Jack Sibold.



You may qualify to receive free home energy upgrades and solar power!

Check it out at : www.smpa.com→I.Q. Programs

What is it? Member Dividends:



It's no error. Electric co-ops, like San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) regularly pay "Member Dividends" to members like you.

Because it is a not-for-profit, any money the association makes over its expenses and required margins, must go back to its members.

Whenever SMPA ends the year with this extra money, it divides it into separate amounts for each member. Your amount depends on how much money you put into the co-op that year, compared to your fellow member-owners. When the Board decides the time is right, your money comes back to you!

It's just another part of the cooperative difference.



Talk to us directly. Rates, renewables, reliability and more...

Learn. Discuss. Take Part.



Coming to your area in November