



# Beyond the Wire

Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.



## Annual Meeting in Review

On Saturday, March 19, Central Valley Electric Cooperative held its first indoor annual meeting in two years. This annual meeting was different from previous annual meetings. The meeting started earlier in the day and only lasted about an hour.



The Board of Trustees presented minor changes to the co-op's Bylaws. The proposed changes were mailed to all co-op members inside the Annual Report. A vote was taken at the annual meeting, and all changes passed.

CVE would like to thank everyone who attended the annual meeting. We would also like to give a special **THANK YOU** to SGS Engineering, Texas Electric Cooperatives, Wesco, Techline, Deans, Inc., Border States, Western United, and Western Farmers Electric Cooperative for donating door prizes.

After all reports and minutes from the previous years annual meeting were approved, the election for the Board of Trustees was held. Three members of the board of trustees were re-elected for a three year term. They are as follows:

- District 1 Artesia/Lakewood - Rusty Gwynne
- District 2 Loco Hills - Jason Ciempa
- District 5 South of Roswell - Larry Benedict



## APRIL 11: LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY

We thank lineworkers for their courage and commitment to powering our communities.

# WFEC to add 30 MW of solar power in New Mexico



ANADARKO, OKLA. - Western Farmers Electric Cooperative (WFEC) will be purchasing additional solar power by the end of 2022 through a Renewable Energy Purchase Agreement (REPA) signed in October 2021. Construction will soon be underway on the Chaves County II facility, a 30-megawatt (MW) nameplate capacity resource to be located on 300 acres, near Roswell, N.M.

WFEC is the wholesale power provider for four rural electric distribution cooperatives in New Mexico. These cooperatives include Central Valley Electric, headquartered in Artesia; Farmers' Electric, located in Clovis; Lea County Electric in Lovington; and Roosevelt County Electric, headquartered in Portales. Additionally, WFEC is the power provider for 17 Oklahoma rural electric cooperatives.

This 30 MW addition will bring WFEC's total solar in New Mexico to 60 MW, with additional projects located in Oklahoma. Another future Oklahoma project, the Skeleton Creek Solar Facility, will add another 250 MW, with commercial operation planned for the end of 2023.

The Chaves County Solar II site will be adjacent to two existing solar projects, owned and operated by NextEra Energy Resources. The Roswell solar facility

and the Chaves County Solar I facility, which have been commercial since 2016, together generate some 140 MWs of electricity a year. The energy from these existing plants have served customers of Southwestern Public Service (SPS) Company in New Mexico and Texas under two power purchase agreements approved by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

Under a new Large Generator Interconnection Agreement, the Chaves II plant will occupy 30 MW of the full 100 MW of a previously approved generator interconnection agreement executed with Southwest Power Pool (SPP) and SPS for the Chaves County Solar I plant (for 70 MW). The power production from the Chaves II facility is projected to exceed 93,000 megawatt-hours (MWh) a year.

The Chaves County II project will be a beneficial low-cost, zero-carbon resource in New Mexico. This solar facility will add capacity to hedge against short-term, high-load cost (congestion), plus taking advantage of investment tax credits, which can serve as a hedge against future New Mexico renewable energy portfolio standards. WFEC will have the rights to all capacity, energy, and renewable energy credits (REC) from the new solar facility.

For New Mexico, Senate Bill 489, the Energy Transition Act, signed in March of 2019 sets a statewide renewable energy standard of 50 percent by 2030 for New Mexico investor-owned utilities and rural electric cooperatives and a goal of 80 percent by 2040. Additionally, it sets zero-carbon resource goals for rural electric cooperatives by 2050.

With the Chaves County Solar II project, and existing solar and wind projects already in service, WFEC's New Mexico member cooperatives are well positioned to meet their state's renewable goals.

## Welcome New Employees



**Edward Marquez**  
Equipment Operator

### Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

PO Box 230 • 1403 N. 13th St. • Artesia, NM 88211  
(575) 746-3571 • (575) 752-3366 Hagerman  
(575) 746-4219 fax • [www.CVECOOP.org](http://www.CVECOOP.org)

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Monday - Friday)