



# Beyond the Wire

Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.



## Valenzuela Earns Safety Award

Central Valley Electric Cooperative congratulates Ben Valenzuela, a journeyman/lineman, for being recognized by his peers with the Long Rope Safety Award.

Ben has worked at CVE for nine years, recently taking a new position working on a bucket truck and once again rising to the challenge. His peers describe him as dependable and willing to help wherever needed.

"Ben is a hard worker, has a mind for safety, and always has a smile on his face," a colleague said.

The Long Rope Safety Award is dedicated to all linemen in New Mexico who have been killed or injured on the job. It is presented to individuals with positive attitudes toward training, communication, safe work habits and who also demonstrates a culture of safety in a challenging industry.

The employees, management, and board of trustees at CVE congratulate Ben Valenzuela for being a leader in safety.

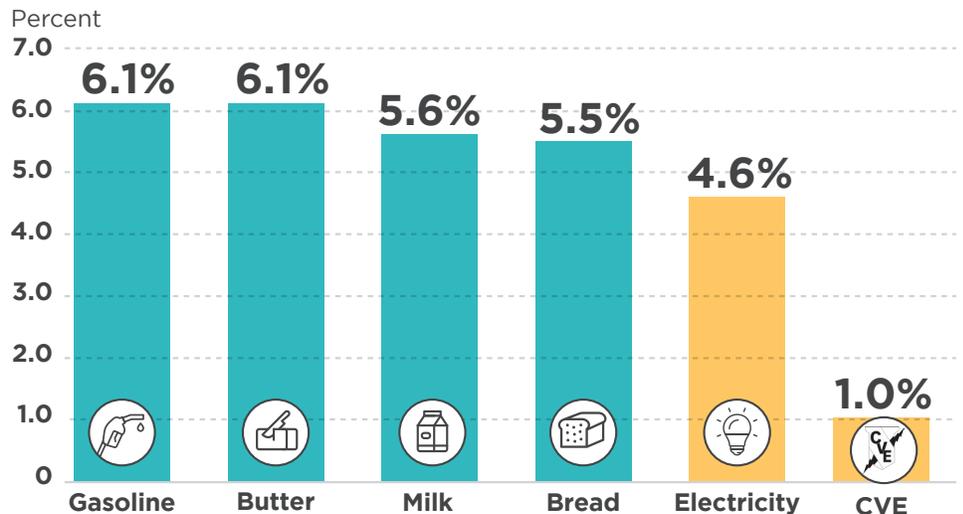


## Electricity Remains A Good Value

Although inflation has led to increasing costs in many areas of our lives, the cost of powering your home rises slowly compared to other common goods. Looking at price increases over the last five years, electricity remains a good value.

Nationally, the cost of electricity has increased by 4.6 percent over the last five years. However, the cost of your electricity from Central Valley Electric Cooperative has only increased by one percent over the same period. In fact, the last time your cooperative had a change in rates was in 2018, and it was a price decrease. The CVE board of trustees, management, and employees work hard to ensure you have safe, reliable, affordable electricity to power your lives.

Average Annual Price Increase 2017-2022



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index



CVE's Board of Trustees want your feedback on the style of annual meeting you would like in 2024.

Scan the QR Code

or go to [www.cvecoop.org/form/2024-annual-meeting-survey](http://www.cvecoop.org/form/2024-annual-meeting-survey) to answer the two question survey.



Your input will help the Board decide to either hold an in-person or a drive-thru annual meeting in 2024.

## Dorm Room Safety



Sending someone off to college? Discuss electrical safety in the dorm:

- Dorm rooms may not have enough outlets to plug in all your gadgets at once. If you must use extension cords, use them temporarily and unplug them when not in use.
- Consider purchasing power strips with an over-current protector, which will shut off power automatically if there is too much current being drawn.
- Use light bulbs with the correct wattage for lamps; if no indication is on the fixture, don't use a bulb with more than 60 watts.
- Never tack or nail an electrical cord to any surface or run cords across traffic paths, under rugs or furniture.
- Watch out for overheated outlets. If an electrical outlet becomes so hot you cannot leave your hand on it, there is potential for a fire. Unplug everything from the outlet and notify dorm officials immediately.

College students should also know what to do if there is a fire, including escape and meeting plans. There are more than 3,500 fires on college campuses every year. Help prevent fires by understanding electrical safety and sharing what you know with others.



## We Are Hiring

CVE has an **Accountant/Work Order Clerk** position open. To apply stop by our office or go to [www.cvecoop.org](http://www.cvecoop.org).

A complete job description and other open positions can also be found on our website.

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