JANUARY 2022

UNITED **NEWSLINE**

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

Date: 4/29/2022

United Power filed a non-conditional Notice of Intent to Withdraw from our power supplier in compliance with a recent Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ruling. This changes our previously announced Tri-State exit date of Jan. 1, 2024 to May 1, 2024.

United Power Files Intent to Leave Tri-State

Co-op Seeking Alternative Power Supplier

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IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY	Scholarship Applications
28	Due
FEBRUARY 11	Director Nomination Deadline Petitions due by 4 p.m.
FEBRUARY	President's Day
21	Offices Closed
APRIL	Annual Meeting &
13	Director Election

Reducing Costs, Leveraging Clean Resources Among Reasons for the Move

United Power, a rural electric cooperative based in Brighton, Colorado, filed its Notice of Intent to withdraw from the membership of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in Washington, D.C., effective January 1, 2024. The two-year notice period was accepted by FERC in an October 29, 2021 ruling.

United Power is the largest member of Tri-State and accounts for nearly 20% of the G&T's annual revenue. United Power has unsuccessfully attempted to modify its all requirements contract with the G&T for more than three years. In the last nine months alone United Power has



www.unitedpower.com

Report an Outage303-637-1350Customer Service303-637-1300

tendered three formal term sheets and held numerous high-level meetings, but leadership at the G&T has been unresponsive to the contract modification requests.

"Sadly, our power supplier has been ignoring our efforts to come to an amicable arrangement that better supports the needs of our members while guaranteeing that our prior commitments are met," said Mark A. Gabriel, United Power President and Chief Executive Officer. "Instead of working with us in the pursuit of lower-cost, cleaner options, Tri-State has resisted these developments. Tri-State recently purchased additional coal generation, is limiting our members' ability to add more carbon free generation and is penalizing additional storage on our system. They also offer non-members preferable transmission rates over those of us who have invested in the system for decades."

United Power has been a leader in the deployment of innovative technologies and in the integration of renewable energy resources. Currently United Power has 84 megawatts of renewable generation on its system including 46 megawatts of utility scale solar, Colorado's largest battery storage project and more than 6,800 roof top systems. Tri-State's policies include penalties if a utility exceeds 5% of generation other than from the G&T.

There are a number of cases currently in front of FERC, Denver Courts, Adams County Courts and the U.S. Court of Appeals that will ultimately decide the exit fee for United Power. United Power joins Delta Montrose Electric Association and Kit Carson who have exited the G&T in the last five years. At least six other cooperatives are considering a potential exit.

"When I came to United Power nine months ago, I was extremely optimistic that we would be able to come to an agreement that lives up to our commitment for past investments and allows us to provide lower cost, cleaner options to our rapidly growing communities in the future," Gabriel said. "Our decision to depart is not made lightly but follows the cooperative principles of voluntary participation and member's economic participation by choice," added Gabriel.

United Power will be seeking alternative power supply and the use of transmission as outlined by FERC as part of Open Access Transmission Tariffs.



Along These Lines

A Message from United Power's President & CEO



Mark A. Gabriel
President & Chief Executive Officer

Have Feedback For Us?

Submit your questions, comments, concerns or general feedback at www.unitedpower.com/CEO.

At United Power we continue with our sole focus of bringing power to our members at the greatest value.

During the past several years we have attempted to work with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, our power supplier, toward this end. Unfortunately, our G&T has been unwilling to make any changes in the pursuit of this goal, saddling United Power with some of the highest cost, carbon intensive power in the State of Colorado.

We have been unsuccessful in negotiating a revised contract with our G&T that would have allowed us to lower costs, expand member options, bring lower carbon generation and provide for a new future. Therefore, as of December 14, 2021 we have formally filed at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) our intent to withdraw from Tri-State effective January 1, 2024. The Board of Directors is strongly in the support of this action.

During my nine months as your President and Chief Executive Officer, I have presented our power supplier with numerous offers of settlement that would have continued our membership relationship while also allowing us to procure lower cost, cleaner power options. Despite many meetings and requests, the G&T has been mute on our offers and instead reacted through the legal system. I have agreed on at least two occasions to mediation with no response.

Instead of working with us in the pursuit of lower-cost, cleaner options, Tri-State has resisted these developments. Tri-State recently purchased additional coal generation, is limiting our members' ability to add more carbon free generation and is penalizing additional storage on our system. Tri- State also offers non-members preferable transmission rates over those of us who have invested in their system for decades. United Power has been a leader in the deployment of innovative new technologies and in the integration of renewable energy resources. Currently United Power has 84 megawatts of renewable generation on its system including 46 megawatts of utility scale solar, Colorado's largest battery storage project, and more than 6,800 rooftop systems. Tri-State's policies include penalties if a utility exceeds 5% of generation other than from the G&T.

United Power represents nearly 20% of the G&T's annual revenue and is more than twice the size of the next largest cooperative. United Power joins Delta Montrose Electric Association and Kit Carson who have exited the G&T in the last five years. At least six other cooperatives are currently considering a potential exit.

United Power will be seeking alternative power supply and the use of transmission as outlined by FERC as part of Open Access Transmission Tariffs. Prior to January 1, 2024, United Power will work with other power suppliers and prepare for the transition from our G&T.

We do not take this decision lightly. Please feel free to reach out to me and other members of the United Power staff with any questions.

United Power will host forums in January for our members to learn more and ask questions about our shift away from Tri-State. Watch the cooperative's website for more information coming soon.

Tri-State Exit Announced: Frequently Asked Questions

How will this affect my rates? Will my electric bills go up or down?

There is no short-term impact to rates with the recent announcement to seek a different wholesale power provider. In fact, the Board of Directors announced there would be no rate increase for members in 2022.

The cost of power is one of the main reasons for our decision to find other providers. United Power's wholesale power costs currently represent 77% of our operating expenses. Reducing our largest expense and exiting a contract that limits how much local renewable power we can generate will benefit all United Power members through lower rates and access to more locally generated renewable power.

How will this change affect my service? Will the new power supplier be reliable?

United Power is committed to ensuring our members have reliable electricity. It's one of our core tenets and will continue to be one of our primary objectives in seeking more affordable and cleaner power. The industry in Colorado and across the nation operates in balancing areas which assures sufficient supply in times of high demand. We also will potentially end up with multiple power suppliers which lowers any potential risk.

Will United Power still provide my power or will I need to find a new electric utility?

United Power will continue to be your power supplier. The change to a different

wholesale power provider will not affect your membership with United Power. United Power and our dedicated employees will still be here to serve you and your electric service will continue to be delivered through our distribution system. As your cooperative, we are committed to finding a wholesale power provider that will generate reliable, affordable, clean electricity for our members, and offer more flexibility for United Power to adapt to the changing energy landscape.

What should members expect until Jan. 2024? Is there anything we need to do?

There will be no change in the quality or our commitment to our members now or even after the transition. There is nothing members are required to do during this transition, but we encourage you to watch our newsletter and website for updates from your cooperative. Staff at United Power will be working for the next 24 months to settle on a cost to leave our contract and to secure new sources of power. We welcome your questions, comments and concerns and will continue to communicate any developments as we seek a new wholesale power provider.

For more information and other frequently asked questions about United Power's intent to leave Tri-State, visit www.unitedpower.com/ powersupply.

Annual Director Election Three Board Seats Up for Election

Three positions on United Power's elevenmember board are up for election at **the 2022 Annual Meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13, 2022.** The cooperative plans to host a hybrid event, available for members to attend either in-person or virtually. One seat in the East, West, and South districts will be up for a three-year term.

To be eligible to become or remain a director, a person must be a United Power member and receive electric service from United Power at the member's primary residence in the district he or she represents. United Power's bylaws (available at www.unitedpower.com, any of our offices, or through mail) provide in-depth information on director districts, qualifications, terms, elections, meetings and officers. Each member's district is printed on their United Power statement. Nominations by written petition must state nominee's name and district, be signed by 15 or more United Power members, and be filed with the Board no less than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The deadline for nominations by petition is 4 p.m. on Friday, February 11, 2022.

Petitions are available at United Power's headquarters office in Brighton at 500 Cooperative Way. Additional information can be obtained by calling United Power's executive department at 303-659-0551 or by visiting our website at www.unitedpower.com.

2022 ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR ELECTION

WEDNESDAY APRIL 13, 2022

The 2022 Annual Meeting will be held as a hybrid event. Members may participate online or attend in-person.

VIRTUAL MEETING:

www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting

IN-PERSON MEETING:

Riverdale Regional Park & Fairgrounds 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton, CO 80601

4:30 p.m.In-person Registration, Balloting & Dinner6:30 p.m.Online & In-person Meeting Begins

United Power is monitoring COVID-19 restrictions, and in the event conditions do not permit an in-person event, the virtual format will still be available. Visit www.unitedpower.com for updates and current health department requirements.

BALLOTING DEADLINES

Balloting in the 2022 Director Election will be conducted by both electronic & paper balloting.

FEBRUARY 11, 2022

Director Nominations by Petition Deadline at 4 p.m.

MARCH 18, 2022

Electronic balloting opens & paper ballots mailed

APRIL 12, 2022

Mail-in ballots must arrive at the P.O. Box by 12 p.m. Electronic balloting closes at 12 p.m.

APRIL 13, 2022

Ballot boxes at United Power offices close at 12 p.m. In-person voting at Annual Meeting location open from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

CANDIDATE FORUMS

In March, United Power will host four candidate forums for members, Forums are free, RSVPS are not requires and light refreshments will be served.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022 | 7:30 a.m. Coal Creek Canyon Community Center

MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022 | 6:30 p.m. Riverdale Regional Park, Waymire Dome *Hybrid Event: Livestream at www.unitedpower.com*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 | 7:30 a.m. Fort Lupton Recreation Center, Multipurpose Room 3

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022 | 6:30 p.m. United Power Carbon Valley Service Center 3

Safety with Space Heaters this Winter



When used safely and properly, portable space heaters provide a nice relief from the rigid chills of winter temperatures, which can often invade poorly insulated or ventilated rooms in older homes. Although space heaters are safe to use indoors because they don't require combustion, they still pose burn and fire hazards and should be used with caution.

Before operating, review the manufacturer's instructions, including warning labels. Space heaters may seem like simple, easy to use

electronics, but each brand and version has its own unique quirks and features. It's better to be safe than sorry. After reviewing the instructions, inspect the space heater for cracks or broken plugs.

Next, be sure to place the heater in a safe location. They should be located at least three feet away from anything that can burn, such as clothing and other fabrics, papers, rugs, etc. Do not place space heaters on furniture, such as chairs or tables, but on a firm, flat location on the ground. Finally, place space heaters away from heavily trafficked areas.

Space heaters place a heavy load on an outlet. For that reason, do not plug any other electrical devices into the same outlet. Extension cords or power strips could also overheat and result in a fire, so plug the heater directly into the wall outlet.

Most importantly, never leave space heaters unattended. Turn it off before you leave a room or go to sleep, and don't let animals or children play too close to the heater. When you're done using the space heater, always unplug it and store it safely.

Space heaters are a nice solution for residual heat in a cold room, but they can also be big consumers of electricity. The more hours your

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space heater is operating, the faster those extra charges add up. Review the chart below for examples:

Space Heater Consumption Costs1500 Watt Space HeaterCost per Hour\$0.1492Duration2 Hours4 HoursCost per Day\$0.2984\$0.5968

1 Month

\$8.952*

1 Month

\$17.90*

Length of Time

Cost Over Time

*This does not factor in the impact on your demand (kW) charges. For example, if you operate a 1500-watt space heater while using other appliances that brought your demand to 5 kW, you could reach a new peak demand of 6.5 kW. For a list of available United Power rates, go to www.unitedpower.com/rates.

Figures based on 2020 standard residential rate.

READER REWARDS



Three Winners Every Month! 1st place: \$100 Bill Credit 2nd place: \$50 Bill Credit (two winners)

Submit Reader Rewards Online www.unitedpower.com

Visit **www.unitedpower.com** and click on 'News & Community' to enter Reader Rewards online. Answer the question below with your online entry:

When are director petitions due?

By submitting this entry I agree to allow United Power to publish my name in subsequent issues of United Newsline if I am selected as a winner. For complete contest rules, visit www.unitedpower.com/newsline.

Members may also enter by mailing the following entry form to: United Power • Reader Rewards • 500 Cooperative Way • Brighton, CO 80603

Name:

Address:



Welcome to Queenstown Airport

Ka kite anō



With the new year approaching, does anyone else have pre-COVID vacations on their minds? DeEtta Thornberg traveled to New Zealand just prior to the pandemic.

United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the United Newsline and you'll get a \$100 bill credit if we print it. Submit your photo along with your name, address, email and a description of the photo online at www.unitedpower.com/unitedpowerpride.

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Local Holiday Festivities

United Power Lights Way at Community Parades

For the first time in nearly two years, Rudolph the Red Nosed Bucket Truck was able to make an appearance at community holiday parades throughout the United Power service territory. Due to restrictions limiting social gatherings throughout Colorado in 2020, Rudolph had to hang up his antlers for a year, but United Power was pleased to bring him back again this year to help power the return of community festivities during this magical time of year.

United Power employees hand-decorated the cooperative's bucket truck with more than 7,000 colorful holiday LED lights, one large red nose and a large penguin companion, which made its bright and colorful appearance at holiday parades in Hudson, Keenesburg, Fort Lupton and Brighton in early December. Members who came out to parades in those communities responded to the truck's unique ability to capture the likeness of the classic character in Christmas stories and songs.

United Power also rolled out brightly decorated trucks for parades in both Carbon Valley and Mead in December.



While Rudolph has hung up his antlers once more, he will return again. United Power is proud to be a partner with the communities it serves in bringing these holiday festivities to life and looks forward to celebrating with members again next year.

2022 Youth Trips & Scholarships

Scholarships Available

United Power awards 18 academic scholarships to outstanding students served by the cooperative. Scholarships include awards for students attending an accredited university or college in Colorado or pursuing a specific degree program, as well as 11 book scholarships. New this year, the cooperative will also award one scholarship to a nontraditional student.

Application Deadline: January 28, 2022

Youth Leadership Camp

Campers spend a week near Steamboat Springs establishing and managing their own cooperative. In between days filled with cooperative-focused activities, leadership training seminars and collaborative group projects, campers enjoy fun activities like rafting down the Colorado River or exploring Fish Creek Falls.

Application Deadline: January 19, 2022



Cooperative Youth Tour

Students explore Washington D.C. with peers from across the country and learn about American history and the cooperative business model while developing leadership skills. Each day is packed with memorable moments.

Application Deadline: January 19, 2022

Applications and more information for United Power's youth opportunities are available under the 'News and Community' tab at www.unitedpower.com or call Julie Stewart, Community Outreach Specialist, at 303-637-1334.

RECIPES



Lasagna Soup

1 Tbsp oil 1 large yellow onion, diced 1 Tbsp chopped garlic 2 lbs lean ground beef 1 Tbsp Italian seasoning 2 tsp each pepper & salt 24 oz jar pasta sauce 4 cups beef broth 28 oz can crushed tomatoes 12 oz Mafalda noodles 1/2 cup heavy cream 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese 1 cup shredded jack cheese blend Parsley to garnish

Heat dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add oil and chopped onion. Cook until partly translucent, about 3-4 minutes. Add garlic and cook additional 1 minute. Add ground beef and sprinkle with Italian seasoning, salt and pepper. Cook until browned, stirring occasionally.

Pour in pasta sauce, beef broth and crushed tomatoes. Stir to combine. Add Mafalda noodles and allow soup to simmer until noodles are al dente, about 8 minutes. Add heavy cream and both cheeses. Stir until combined and serve immediately.

Lasagna Soup, I Am Baker (www.iambaker.net)

Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

ONLINE:	www.unitedpower.com
MAIL:	United Power Recipes
	500 Cooperative Way
	Brighton, CO 80603

Energy Efficiency For a New Year

United Power is committed to providing members with the tools and resources they need to take control of their energy use. As we enter a new year, it's now easier to control your energy and become more energy efficient. Here are some ways United Power is empowering its members to take control.

Rates that Work for You

Families spent more time at home over the past two years due to the pandemic transitioning many to working from a home office while schooling from the kitchen or living room. As a result, members are more aware of the ways they use energy. Now is the time to ask your cooperative about your rate and choose one that works for you and your family. United Power's residential rates provide individuals and families options designed to fit a variety of lifestyles. The flexibility of available rates enables members to review their energy use habits and select a plan that fits their usage patterns. The cooperative's rates will also remain unchanged as we head into 2022.

For more information on United Power's rates, go to www. unitedpower.com/rates, or to have a dedicated energy management specialist review your history and recommend a rate option, call 303-637-1311.

Take Advantage of Free Member Resources

United Power provides several programs and tools to help members understand their usage. The Power Portal is an accessory to the cooperative's online account portal and provides detailed energy use information. With information displayed in 15-minute intervals throughout the day, members can compare days or months to determine what's driving energy usage. More information about the Power Portal is available at www. unitedpower.com/powerportal.

In addition to this resource, the cooperative has also launched calculators to help members understand what drives their demand or how charging an electric vehicle can impact their usage. More resources may be coming in the future, and all these tools are available free to United Power members.



'Smart' Way to Save on Heating this Winter

Heating and cooling your home accounts for approximately half your annual energy usage, making it the most expensive part of your energy costs. The most efficient way to manage your heating and cooling is installing a smart thermostat, which gives you control even when you're not home. A simple adjustment to your thermostat could save you as much as 10 percent annually, according to the Department of Energy, which recommends adjusting your temperature a couple degrees when you're home and a couple more when you're away. Many smart thermostats can learn your schedule and make these adjustments automatically.

Talk to an Energy Management Specialist

A United Power Energy Management Specialist is available to walk through your energy concerns, analyze your usage and provide you with practical information you can use to control your energy usage. They can walk you through available rates, programs and rebates to ensure you're maximizing your energy savings.

Ultimately, energy savings comes down to the small things. Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you aren't in a room. Stagger the use of appliances to avoid a higher demand. Remind everyone in your family to make energy savings a priority. Enter into the new year resolved to be more energy efficient.



ENERGY SAVERS

Let in the Sunshine

During the winter, sunlight warms the air inside your home, preventing your heating unit from overworking. In the same way, keeping curtains closed in the summer prevents the sun from warming the air in your home.

Energy Efficient Cooking January is National Slow Cooker Month

Members looking to cut some energy use as we enter the new year can start by ditching the oven and pulling out the slow cooker. Throw some vegetables and meat of choice into a slow cooker before work and have a delicious braise or mouthwatering stew waiting for you when you get home. You'll use a fraction of the energy and have less cleanup to do at the end.

It can take several hours to prepare a meal using a slow cooker, so how does it use less energy? The heating element used in slow cookers is very low current and relies on trapped heat to cook food. It uses



approximately 1300 watts in 8-9 hour of cooking compared to 2,000-5,000 watts per 60 minutes of usage for a conventional oven and loses less heat to evaporation.

ENERGY SMART REBATES | 2022



unitedpower.com/rebates

2022 Rebate Program Details

United Power members receiving permanent electric service qualify for the following Energy Smart Rebates. In addition to the rebates listed here, United Power members also qualify for rebates on **Heat Pumps and Electric Heat**. Members are encouraged to review program requirements prior to purchasing and installing any new equipment to be assured of meeting all rebate requirements.

All rebate applications must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Submission of an application does not guarantee a rebate. United Power reserves the right to inspect installation. Rebate amounts effective January 1, 2022. Purchase date must be on or after January 1, 2022.

Complete rebate program details, restrictions and rebate applications can be found at www.unitedpower.com/rebates.



Appliances

New ENERGY STAR [®] Refrigerator/Freezer		\$30
Refrigerator/Freezer Recyclin	ng	\$60
New ENERGY STAR® Clothes Washer	Top load	\$30
	Front load	\$40
New ENERGY STAR [®] Clothes Dryer		\$30
Induction Cooktop – 30" or la Gas to Electric conversion or	•	\$350
Rebates and Recycling credits available for f To receive recycling credit, you must supply p		

of receive recycling credit, you must supply proof that your old unit was recycled. Repl of gas range with induction requires verification of old gas cooktop/range.

Whole House Fan

Replacement or new installation.

\$100

Outdoor Electric Equipment

Final rebate amounts are 25% of the equipment cost up to the maximum listed below.

Electric Trimmers, Pruners,	max.
Leaf Blowers, Power Washers	\$50
Electric Chainsaws	max. \$100
Snow Blowers,	max.
Electric Lawn Mowers – Walk-Behind	\$150

New equipment only purchased on or after Jan. 1, 2022. Battery or corded equipment. Minimum purchase price of \$50. Limit one rebate per product type, per year.

Electric Water Heater

Water Heater - fossil fuel to electric conversion	\$150
Water Heater - on United Power utility control	\$250
GSHP Desuperheater with steel glass-lined tank.	\$300*
Heat Pump Water Heater	\$370
Minimum size of all units is 2.5 kW and 30 gallon. Must have R-16 manufacturer insulation or equivalent. Applies to both new or replacement units. Must meet minimum DOE energy factors. Plastic or stone lined lifetime product.	

*Rebate limit one wired tank on two tank GSHP desuperheater configuration.

Attic ventilation systems do not qualify.

Inside This Issue

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Changing Power Suppliers United Power has filed its intent to leave

Tri-State Generation & Transmission. **COVER**



New Year Energy Efficiency

Make your New Year's resolution to use energy more efficiently this year.

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Youth Trips & Scholarships

United Power youth applications are due this month. More information inside.

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2022 Rebates

New year, new rebates. Check out our updated rebates in this issue.

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STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR CO-OP

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Latwitter.com/UnitedPowerCoop

Member Services	303-637-1300
Outage Line	. 303-637-1350

CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

1 st Place:	Jennifer Kanmore, Fort Lupton
2 nd Place:	Kathleen Marquiss, Brighton
	Jerry Curtis, Firestone

See your name? Call 303-637-1325 within two (2) months of the issue date to claim your Reader Rewards.

> Stephen Whiteside sesegiV seme Dave Rose Brian A. McCormick Brad Case Ginny Buczek Asst. Sect./Treasurer Tamra Waltemath Treasurer Keith Alquist ζεςretary Tim Erickson ивтлівдЭ-эріV Beth Martin иешлецЭ Ursula J. Morgan **Board of Directors**

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Relations Officer

Laurie Burkhart

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Mark A. Gabriel

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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Chief Information Officer

Government & Regulatory

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Troy Whitmore

Chief Energy Resource Officer

Newsline Editors