

# UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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## IMPORTANT DATES

May	National Electrical Safety Month
May 27	Memorial Day Office Closed
June 19	Juneteenth Offices Closed
July 4	Independence Day Offices Closed

# Board Approves June 1 Rate Increase

## Increase to Fund Wholesale Power Contract Exit

United Power members will see a rate increase effective for usage beginning on June 1, 2024. The rate increase, which is being spread across all rate classes, is intended to offset the contract termination costs paid by the cooperative to leave its current wholesale power contract on May 1. The average household on the standard residential rate using about 850 kwh per month with a demand of 7 kW will see their bill rise from \$124.82 to \$136.85, an increase of \$12.03.

United Power’s Board and leadership signed a historic funding agreement last month to fund the contract termination payment with the co-op’s wholesale power supplier. The

agreement provided \$627 million toward its exit fee, with at least \$179 million of that amount for prepayment for use of the Tri-State Generation and Transmission’s transmission system. The prepayment amount will be credited back monthly with interest against United Power’s transmission bills.

“We are proud of the work that went into this effort to leave our wholesale power contract,” stated Mark A. Gabriel, President and CEO of United Power. “We envision a future with more locally produced power, more predictability in rates, and the flexibility to meet the changing needs of our members. We will have control over the largest single component of our members’ bills – their wholesale power costs. Leaving this contract gives us the ability to design the future we want.”

### What is Changing?

The average residential member will see increases in both the demand charge and in the energy charge, while the fixed charge will remain the same. The demand charge will increase from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per kW, while the energy charge will increase from 10.39 cents per kwh to 10.57 cents.

Residential time-of-use members will see a similar increase, with an increase in demand from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per kW. On-peak energy charges will drop from 16.07 cents to 15.25 cents, while off-peak energy charges will increase from 5.5 cents per kwh to 6 cents. All other rates will see similar increases.

See full menu of rate changes on our website at [www.unitedpower.com/proposed-rates](http://www.unitedpower.com/proposed-rates).

### How to Control Your Demand

The structure of United Power’s rates provides members the ability to keep costs lower by both reducing use and controlling demand. Lowering demand is as simple as not using electric appliances at the same time. Additionally, setting timers on dryers and dishwashers so they start after the family goes to sleep moves the demand of that appliance to a lower use period and actively reduces demand costs.

Learn more about demand and how you can reduce the impact of this portion of your bill at [www.unitedpower.com/demand](http://www.unitedpower.com/demand).

Members who need assistance managing their monthly bills are encouraged to contact United Power’s member services team about



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

[www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)

Report an Outage 303-637-1350  
Customer Service 303-637-1300

# 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](http://www.unitedpower.com/CEO).

### Our Cooperative Roadmap

Our Cooperative Roadmap contains the cooperative's long-term action plan and key priorities to maintain its strength and competitiveness in the evolving electric industry.

Read Our Cooperative Roadmap at [www.unitedpower.com/roadmap](http://www.unitedpower.com/roadmap).

There is never a good time to raise rates, but there is always a good reason. Raising rates ensures the financial stability of the utility, keeps borrowing costs low, and allows for continued investment in facilities. Sometimes there is a great reason to raise rates. For United Power, that great reason is freedom to do the right thing for our members and a restoration of local control.

More than 85 years ago, United Power's founding board members decided electrification was in the best interest of their communities. Their goal required bold thinking and a bit of moxie. It took them two years to bring their idea of electrification to life but resulted in the lights going on for 110 homes and businesses in 1940. It introduced a vision for the future that is still being expanded today. The cooperative is now more than 100 times larger – far larger than those original founders could have ever imagined.

Two years ago, your intrepid Board of Directors began the initial steps to take our cooperative back, advocating for a new direction untethered to an organization that was not operating in our members' best interests. The Board's belief is bringing a new vision of the future, and we are expanding on that every day.

Operating as an independent entity allows United Power to manage its own destiny and focus on locally controlled generation and assets, while protecting members from costs that do not bring them value. Exiting our power contract prevents the cooperative from carrying a disproportionate burden of the supplier's costs and investments and subsidizing others. Additionally, we want to incentivize generation and storage within our communities and increase reliability. Local generation contributes tax revenue that benefits our communities. Our new power supply will also immediately reduce our carbon intensity, helping us meet regulatory mandates.

The cost of this freedom is \$627 million, broken down into an exit fee of roughly \$450 million and a 40-year prepayment of approximately \$180 million for the use of transmission facilities. This prepayment is a loan from United Power that will earn interest to the tune of more than

\$250 million, and it is for service that we would have needed to buy anyway. Most importantly, the cooperative will be free from debts and obligations over which we have no management or control.

The key question, of course, is what this exit will do to bills. There will be a small rate increase to pay for our freedom. Raising rates is never pleasant, and we understand this will be challenging for some. We are working on programs to minimize the impact, and we are committed to rate stabilization and potential answers for lowering them as we pay off our exit fees.

This resolution is really the end of the beginning for United Power's exciting and bold vision for the future. This was outlined three years ago in Our Cooperative Roadmap, which envisioned a new set of power supplies, the move into power markets, increased levels of energy storage, and continuing our industry-leading innovation.

Innovation is not new at United Power. We were one of the first to have community solar, generate power from methane waste gas, and pioneer battery storage. Further, our rates and programs support members who add solar and storage, and electric vehicles are revolutionizing our backyard with more than 6,000 in our territory.

United Power received a grant to combine floating solar with storage in Fort Lupton to produce low-cost power and reduce water loss through evaporation. Golden Aluminum, one of the co-op's largest industrial members, received \$22.3 million to electrify their processes. And, we have been selected to apply for New ERA grant funding. If the application is successful, those funds will help stabilize and lower the cost of lower carbon resources.

Being an independent entity means we get to pick the right generating resources for our members, and help electrification efforts without constraints or paying for things that do not benefit the co-op.

There is a cost to our freedom, but operating independently is priceless. Bold thinking and a bit of moxie are making this happen. I am proud of the women and men of United Power. We are, and will remain, Here for Good.

## Member Choice Grant Nominations Now Open

Member Choice Grants, a program that allows members to nominate local nonprofits for cooperative grants, is returning for 2024. Nominations opened in April.

Nominating a local nonprofit that is helping meet the needs of individuals and families in the cooperative's service territory is a way for members to let United Power know which causes they care about. The process is quick and simple. Learn more about Member Choice Grants at [www.unitedpower.com/memberchoice](http://www.unitedpower.com/memberchoice).

Since the program's launch in 2020, United Power members have helped the cooperative recognize more than 25 nonprofit organizations and distribute more than \$35,000 in grant funds. Six nonprofits were recognized last year, and received grants totaling \$12,000 to assist them in achieving their missions. Nominations for 2024 Member Choice Grants will be accepted through Sept. 27 and recipients announced in the December newsletter.



### Nominate A Nonprofit!

[www.unitedpower.com/memberchoice](http://www.unitedpower.com/memberchoice)



## Member Exclusive Discount Save at Colorado National Speedway

United Power has partnered with the Colorado National Speedway to offer members the exclusive opportunity to experience NASCAR racing at a discounted rate during the 2024 season.

Colorado National Speedway is the state's premier NASCAR track, centrally located in Carbon Valley just off Interstate 25 between exits 232 & 235.

United Power members save \$5 on any adult admission with this coupon.

**Where:** Colorado National Speedway  
4281 Speedway Blvd., Dacono, CO

**When:** May 18  
June 1  
July 13  
Aug. 3 & 24  
Sept. 14



**Save \$5**  
on Any Adult Ticket Purchase



**Colorado National Speedway**  
4281 Speedway Blvd., Dacono, CO  
[www.coloradospeedway.com](http://www.coloradospeedway.com) | 303-828-0116

### Colorado National Speedway is Colorado's premier NASCAR track.

Experience affordable family fun this season with this exclusive United Power member coupon. Coupon applies to races occurring on the following dates during the 2024 season:

May 18 | June 1 | July 13  
Aug. 3 & 24 | Sept. 14

Adult admission is \$12 **with** coupon  
Children's tickets are \$8 (ages 5-12)  
Must present original coupon for purchase.  
Coupon applies to in-person ticket purchases **ONLY**.

## RECIPES



### Charred Asparagus Tacos with Creamy Adobo & Pickled Onion

- 2 ancho chiles, stemmed and seeded
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 small onion, finely sliced
- 2 medium garlic cloves, grated
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- 1 Tbsp cider vinegar
- 1 chipotle chile in adobo + 1 Tbsp sauce
- 2/3 cup sour cream
- 2 tsp fresh lime juice
- 2 1/2 lbs asparagus, cut into 1" segments

Heat ancho chiles over high heat, turning occasionally, until toasted and fragrant. Transfer to bowl or cup and cover with 1 cup water. Microwave on high until simmering. Let steep until softened. Drain, but reserve liquid.

Heat 1 Tbsp oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Add onions and cook until softened. Add garlic and oregano, and cook until fragrant. Add vinegar, chipotle, sauce, and reserved chili liquid. Blend mixture along with ancho chiles until smooth. Season to taste with salt.

Saute asparagus in remaining oil. Cook without moving until charred, turn, and repeat. Spread tortillas with sauce and fill with asparagus. Top with pickled onions, cheese, and cilantro.

### Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

ONLINE: [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)

MAIL: United Power Recipes  
500 Cooperative Way  
Brighton, CO 80603

# Storms Can Cause Extended Outages

## Members Reliant on Electric-Dependent Medical Equipment Should Be Prepared for Extended Outages and Other Emergencies

Spring weather in Colorado can be unpredictable, bringing everything from heavy snow to high winds. Strong storm systems frequently develop with little or no warning. United Power cannot guarantee uninterrupted power and encourages members to be prepared for unexpected outages by coordinating a backup plan, especially if you or a family member rely on electric-dependent medical equipment.

### How to Develop a Backup Plan

There are many resources available for members to reference when creating a backup plan. The Americans with Disabilities Act National Network, for example, recommends identifying alternate power sources (such as batteries or a generator), checking them regularly, and teaching neighbors or family members how to use the equipment. Label equipment with your name and address, and keep copies of equipment information and instructions in a waterproof container. Additional tips for developing a safe and effective backup plan are available at [www.adata.org/factsheet/emergency-power](http://www.adata.org/factsheet/emergency-power).

Members who use specialized medical equipment should inform the cooperative and check to make sure they have accurate contact information on file. United Power alerts its members when scheduled maintenance may result in a brief power interruption. The cooperative's outage map ([www.unitedpower.com/outage](http://www.unitedpower.com/outage)) is also available to check the status of a planned or unplanned outage.

More information about medically necessary devices can be found online at [www.unitedpower.com/medical-devices](http://www.unitedpower.com/medical-devices).



**If you are experiencing a life-threatening medical emergency, please call 911.**

### United Power Recommends Having a Backup Plan

Scan the QR code to find simple steps for developing a backup plan in the event of an extended outage.

Remember to register your medical device with United Power and always report power outages to the cooperative at 303-637-1350 or on your online account.



## READER REWARDS

ISSUE 4  
2024



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

### Submit Reader Rewards Online

[www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)



Visit [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com) and click on 'News & Community' to enter Reader Rewards online. Answer the question below with your online entry:

### When are Member Choice nominations 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](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNITED POWER PRIDE



Slovenia's Lake Bled at Thanksgiving looks oddly similar to Colorado in the fall, which Commerce City's Robert Burroughs pointed out on his family's holiday vacation.

### United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the United Newsline and you'll receive 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](http://www.unitedpower.com/unitedpowerpride).

**HERE**

**== for ==**

**GOOD**

**== SINCE 1938 ==**

UNION RURAL  
ELECTRIC ASS'N. INC.  
BRIGHTON COLO.  
Phone 26

# 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

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**UNITED  
POWER**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



**85**  
YEARS

# COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Utility Plant		
Electric Plant	\$586,038,969	\$530,666,941
less: Depreciation	(129,451,800)	(120,026,785)
Depreciated Value	456,587,169	410,640,156
Investments and Other Property	152,049,290	149,084,196
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3,901,210	3,379,790
Receivables	10,261,837	8,181,602
Materials	14,881,176	12,277,293
Prepayments and Other Current Assets	27,623,187	27,352,732
Total	56,667,410	51,191,417
Deferred Debits	47,217,011	38,507,562
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$712,520,881</b>	<b>\$649,423,331</b>

## LIABILITIES & CAPITAL

Capital Equities		
Patronage Capital	\$255,672,982	\$245,667,597
Other Capital	2,256,853	597,069
Total	257,929,835	246,264,667
Long-Term Debt	333,327,826	319,839,067
Current Liabilities		
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	11,206,964	10,460,940
Notes Payable	59,000,000	16,100,000
Accounts Payable	22,992,873	26,409,475
Accrued Expenses	11,921,459	14,036,313
Accrued Taxes	7,015,177	8,478,824
Customer Deposits	2,426,046	2,204,572
Total	114,562,519	77,690,124
Deferred Credits	6,700,701	5,629,473
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Capital</b>	<b>\$712,520,881</b>	<b>\$649,423,331</b>

### TOTAL REVENUE

(THOUSANDS)



2019	\$285,599
2020	\$300,271
2021	\$303,309
2022	\$314,576
2023	\$334,977

### TOTAL ASSETS

(THOUSANDS)



2019	\$510,498
2020	\$549,851
2021	\$596,297
2022	\$649,423
2023	\$712,521

### ENERGY SALES - KWH

(THOUSANDS)



2019	2,739,378
2020	2,871,674
2021	2,902,460
2022	2,993,636
2023	3,236,716

# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS & PATRONAGE CAPITAL

	2023	2022
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>		
Operating Revenue	\$334,977,107	\$314,575,926
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Cost of purchased power	242,588,937	229,750,040
Operating expenses – distribution	11,134,016	7,923,196
Maintenance of distribution plant	9,612,488	8,589,866
Consumer accounting and collection expenses	7,688,673	6,062,385
Other customer expenses	3,762,790	3,265,762
Administrative & general expense	14,165,212	15,000,373
Directors fees and expense	580,154	480,292
Depreciation	16,514,708	15,323,400
Property taxes	7,003,376	8,470,698
Other expenses	470,300	491,608
Total Operating Expenses	313,520,654	295,357,620
Operating Margins before Interest Expense	21,456,453	19,218,306
Interest Expense		
Interest on long-term debt	13,509,927	11,830,654
Interest charged to construction (credit)	(1,556,538)	(691,240)
Other interest expense	1,630,344	264,113
Total Interest Expense	13,583,733	11,403,527
Operating Margins Before Capital Credits	7,872,720	7,814,779
G&T and other capital credits	6,098,439	3,727,958
Operating Margins	13,971,159	11,542,737
Interest revenue	276,511	324,701
Allowance for funds used during construction (equity)	664,861	416,378
Other revenue (expense)	473,475	1,240,150
Nonoperating Margin	1,414,847	1,981,229
<b>Net Margins</b>	<b>\$15,386,006</b>	<b>\$13,523,966</b>
<b>PATRONAGE CAPITAL AND OTHER EQUITY</b>		
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Net Margins	\$15,386,006	\$13,523,966
Patronage Capital & Other Equities, Beginning of Year	246,264,667	236,719,303
Subtotal	261,650,673	250,243,269
Retirement of Capital Credits and Other Contributions (Net)	(3,720,837)	(3,978,603)
<b>Patronage Capital &amp; Other Equities, End of Year</b>	<b>\$257,929,835</b>	<b>\$246,264,667</b>

## TOTAL PLANT INVESTMENT

(THOUSANDS)



2019	\$399,341
2020	\$450,148
2021	\$482,721
2022	\$530,667
2023	\$586,039

## MILES OF LINE



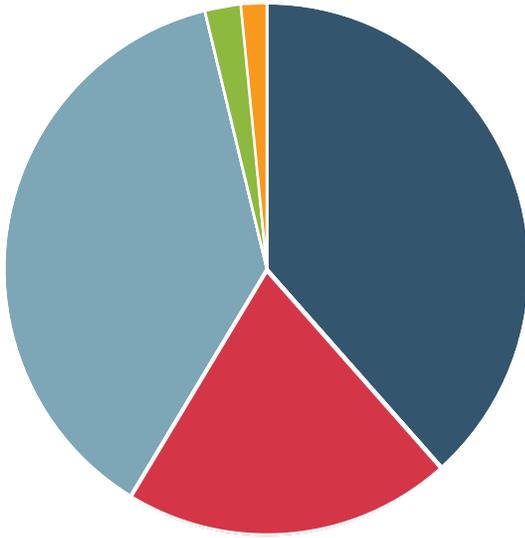
2019	6,205
2020	6,384
2021	6,551
2022	6,790
2023	6,925

## NUMBER OF METERS SERVED



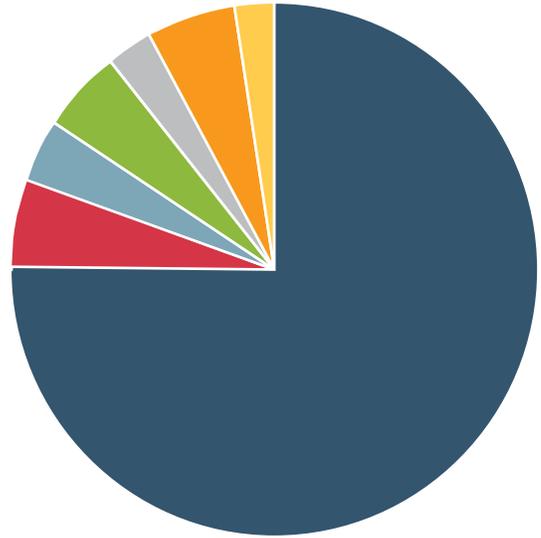
2019	93,527
2020	97,704
2021	102,305
2022	106,943
2023	110,502

# FINANCIALS AT A GLANCE



## SOURCES OF INCOME

Residential	\$125,368,190	36.7%
Small Commercial	\$66,948,029	19.6%
Large Commercial	\$138,836,538	40.6%
Other Operating Revenues	\$4,574,336	1.3%
Tri-State Allocations (non-cash)	\$1,794,422	0.5%
Other Allocations & Income (non-cash)	\$4,304,017	1.3%



## STATEMENT OF EXPENSES

Cost of Power	\$242,588,937	74.2%
Depreciation (non-cash)	\$16,514,708	5.0%
Interest	\$13,583,733	4.2%
Operations & Maintenance	\$20,746,504	6.3%
Consumer Accounts & Info	\$11,451,463	3.5%
Admin, Gen'l & Other	\$15,215,666	4.7%
Taxes	\$7,003,376	2.1%

# YOUR ENERGY DOLLAR

For every dollar you spend on electricity, three-quarters goes toward the cost of wholesale power.

73¢

Cost of Wholesale Power

27¢

Depreciation (5¢), Interest (4¢), Operating Expense (14¢), Taxes (2¢), Operating Margins (2¢)



Date of Notice: April 26, 2024

You are hereby notified that UNITED POWER, INC. (United Power) proposes to make changes to several of its rate tariff schedules to become effective for energy usage on or after June 1, 2024. An increase is necessary for all rate classes to fund the exit from United Power's Wholesale Supplier. There will be a 5.7% increase to the Large Commercial Coincidental Peak Primary Demand (CPP1) and a 6.1% increase to the Large Commercial Coincidental Peak Secondary Demand (CPS1). There will be an 8.6% increase to the Industrial Service Substation or Transmission Service (ITD1), a 9.2% increase to the Industrial Service Substation or Transmission Service (ITD3), and a 9.6% increase to Industrial Service Substation/Transmission Service (ITD4) rates. The Residential Time of Use (RTD1), Residential Smart Choice (RD1), Residential TOU Demand Service (RDP1), Large Commercial Secondary Demand Service (ISD1), and Large Industrial Primary Demand Service (IPD1) rates will have a 9.7% increase. The increase to the Residential (R1), Small Commercial (C1), and Small Commercial Time of Use (CTD1) rates will be 9.8%. The Industrial Service Substation or Transmission Service (ITD2) rate will have an increase of 9.9%. The increase to the Irrigation (IRR2) rate will be 10%. The Shared Lighting Service rate will have an increase of 11.3% and the Non-Metered Lighting Service rate will have an increase of 11.5%. The Small Industrial Primary Service (SIP1) rate increase will be 14%. The Renewable Resource Green Power Optional Rider Tariff, Sheet 9.3, will reflect updated program requirements and rates, effective Aug. 1, 2024, for a new, 100% Offset option on a per kWh basis and 100-kWh blocks.

In addition to rate tariff changes, there are minor modifications to update and reflect current business practices in the Rules and Regulations. These updates are to become effective on or after June 1, 2024. The identified areas needing revisions or updating include: (1) Service Connection and Line Extension Fee Schedule and (2) Current Business Practices for estimated billings.

The present and proposed tariff provisions are available for examination at the Coal Creek branch office, located at 5 Gross Dam Road, Golden, CO; the headquarters office located at 500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO; and the Carbon Valley Service Center office at 9586 E. I-25 Frontage Road, Longmont, CO.

Anyone who desires to comment about the proposed changes shall file either an informal complaint or a formal complaint with United Power at 500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO 80603 at least 10 days before the proposed effective date.

An informal complaint shall be in writing and shall contain such facts and other information to adequately state the reason(s) for the complaint. An informal complaint regarding the proposed tariff changes shall be considered by United Power, but will not require that a hearing be held.

Anyone who desires a hearing must file a specific and formal complaint to the proposed changes and a request for hearing at least 10 days before the proposed effective date. A formal complaint shall be in writing in the form prescribed by United Power's Regulations Governing Consumer Complaints and Related Matters. Upon request, a copy of said regulations is available from United Power.

United Power may hold a hearing to determine what changes will be authorized, regardless of complaints. If proper formal complaints and request for hearings are timely filed, the United Power Board of Directors shall schedule a hearing. The changes ultimately authorized may or may not be the same as those proposed and may include changes different than those tariffs proposed or currently in effect. Anyone who desires to receive notice of hearings, if any, shall make a written request therefor to United Power, at the above address, at least 10 days before the proposed effective date.

UNITED POWER, INC.

By: Mark A. Gabriel, President and Chief Executive Officer

## What are Capital Credit Allocations?

As a United Power member, you are also an owner. When you make a payment, a portion goes toward your investment in our system. Unlike investor-owned utilities, not-for-profit electric cooperatives return any margins to their members in the form of capital credits.

Margins are allocated to active members every year. "Allocation" means the funds you have invested into the co-op are tracked, but not accessible in the form of cash. Distribution of capital credits – or retirement – happens at the discretion of the Board.

Each year, United Power's Board of Directors evaluates capital credit retirement, considering factors such as the impact on electric rates and the financial strength of the cooperative, which means capital credits may not be returned every year. United Power's Board has decided not to retire any capital credits this year – but capital credits will still be allocated and will stay in each member's "capital credit bank" for future retirement.

## Earn \$25 with Smart Rewards



United Power members with qualifying smart thermostats from Honeywell or Nest can earn money back this summer by enrolling in Smart Rewards. Through Smart Rewards, your smart thermostat will automatically shift energy use to help us reduce load on the electric grid. When you help us save, we will pass those savings along to you at the end of each summer. For every summer you remain enrolled, United Power will credit you \$25.

### Signing Up is Simple

Qualifying smart thermostats can be enrolled in Smart Rewards through your thermostat's app or online. United Power provides enrollment links and a list of qualifying device models on its website:

[www.unitedpower.com/smart-rewards](http://www.unitedpower.com/smart-rewards).

Members will receive notifications during peak events, which will only occur weekdays between 12 p.m. and 9 p.m. and last no more than four hours. Your thermostat will automatically return to normal at the end of the event. There will never be more than three events in a week. Members will see their credits on billing statements at the end of each cooling season, typically in October.

### Smart Thermostats Rebates

Members may also qualify for exclusive rebates on qualifying Honeywell smart thermostats with enrollment in Smart Rewards. For more information on rebates, eligibility, and qualifying devices, visit the United Power website at:

[www.unitedpower.com/thermostat](http://www.unitedpower.com/thermostat).

## 2024 Director Election Results

United Power members cast nearly 5,500 ballots in this year's Director Election, and the following results were certified by the Qualifications and Election Oversight Committee at the 2024 Annual Meeting.

### Mountain District

Stephen Whiteside (*Incumbent*)..... 4,819

### North District

Brian A. McCormick (*Incumbent*)..... 4,776

### Central District

Paige Wagner-Maul ..... 3,064

Tim Erickson (*incumbent*) ..... 2,197

### East District

Brad Case (*Incumbent*)..... 4,767

### Ballot Question – Bylaw Amendment

*Shall there be an amendment to Article 4, Section 4 of the Bylaws of United Power, Inc. to lengthen the term a Director holds office from three (3) years to four (4) years?*

Yes, in favor..... 2,750

No, opposed ..... 2,528

## Communities Recognize Co-op's 85th Anniversary

United Power is celebrating its 85th anniversary as an electric cooperative serving power to 17 franchise communities and two mountain canyons — Coal Creek and Golden Gate Canyons in Gilpin County.

Several of the communities the cooperative serves joined in commemorating United Power's milestone anniversary with special proclamations at city and town council meetings over the first few months of 2024.

United Power issues a special thank you to those communities, including Brighton, Broomfield, Commerce City, Dacono, Erie, Firestone, Fort Lupton, Frederick, Johnstown, Hudson, Keenesburg, Lochbuie, Mead, Northglenn, Thornton, Westminster, and more to come.

# United Power Hosted 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in April

## Director Election Results Announced

United Power hosted its 2024 Annual Meeting and 85th Anniversary Celebration on April 17 at the Riverdale Regional Park in Brighton. More than 500 members and guests were in attendance to celebrate the cooperative's milestone and learn more about the exciting ways it is preparing for the future in an evolving energy industry.

Voting in the Director Election was conducted via mail-in and electronic balloting. This year's ballot also featured a bylaw amendment question about director term lengths. Nearly 5,500 ballots were cast in the election. **(Results can be found to the left.)**

Board Chair Beth Martin and Mark A. Gabriel, United Power's President and CEO, shared a video presentation highlighting the cooperative's significant achievements over the previous year. The co-op exited its wholesale power contract in May, but the efforts to obtain a reasonable exit fee and secure sufficient power supply from new contractors began this past year. Various power supply contracts with suppliers like Guzman Energy provide a mix of local generation and new renewable resources, while innovative energy projects, such as localized utility-scale battery storage, will mitigate expensive energy purchases during peak power windows. These projects were the result of long-term planning laid out in Our Cooperative Roadmap.

"Our vision of generating power close to where it is consumed – known as hyper localization – is one of the key strategies we are using in developing our power supply," Gabriel said. "Why not use power generated next door, or in your neighborhood, rather than transporting it hundreds of miles from central generating plants? It is an efficient, reliable, and cost-effective power delivery system."

The cooperative also maintained and improved its standard of excellence in system reliability and resiliency in 2023. United Power's outage duration and response rates rank among the best when measured against electric utilities nationwide, including other cooperatives and investor-owned utilities.

"Our excellent service record can be tied to several important factors," Gabriel said.



Local fair royalty pose for a photo with United Power's safety demo team at the 2024 Annual Meeting.

"Our crews' focus on maintenance of existing infrastructure, coupled with identification and targeting of aging or damaged equipment before it causes an outage, is key to keeping the lights on."

The presentation also highlighted United Power's robust approach to electric vehicle programs and rebates and the launch of its all-new battery storage pilot program; celebrated the success of its online member chat feature, with its intuitive navigation connecting members to the information they need quickly and efficiently; and acknowledged the cooperative's first Sustainability Report, which highlights key operational areas, provides performance metrics, and recaps several important cooperative focus areas.

"There are a lot of exciting developments on the horizon, and we are looking forward to a new energy future," Martin said. "But it's important to know that we are still concentrating on the core business of being a utility."

Gabriel concluded the business meeting with a presentation about the innovative steps the cooperative is taking to embrace the industry's shifting direction. His presentation highlighted the cooperative's plans to meet the future energy needs of its members, and how the co-op plans to respond to growth on its system.

"The resolution of the issue with our power supplier is really a new beginning for United Power's exciting and bold vision for the future," Gabriel said.

Videos and information presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting, including the cooperative's 2023 Annual Report, are available on the cooperative's website at [www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting](http://www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting).

# Directors Earn Certificates

## Four Directors Renew Gold Certificates

United Power's Board of Directors is committed to continuing education opportunities that enable them to govern the cooperative more effectively and stay informed about industry changes. Directors work toward completion or renewal of director certifications through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) each year. Directors Ginny Buczek, Beth Martin, Tamra Waltemath, and Brian A. McCormick renewed their Director Gold certifications this year, the highest certification available for co-op directors.



NRECA's three-step Director Education Program is designed to teach essential skills and knowledge through a series of educational courses. The first step in the process is the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD), which helps prepare directors to fulfill their fiduciary duty as elected officials on behalf of their membership. Once the program has been completed, directors can proceed to the Board Leadership Certificate (BLC). Directors who have completed both the CCD and BLC, plus an additional three BLC credits, are eligible to earn Director Gold certification. To maintain Director Gold certification, directors must earn at least three credits from approved continuing education courses within a two-year period.



All of United Power's directors are committed to achieving the highest levels of certification and professional training for the benefit of the cooperative and the members they represent. As of April, ten of the cooperative's eleven directors have completed at least the CCD certification and seven directors are Director Gold certified.



## Keeping Bills Low As Summer Heat Rises

United Power reminds members to prepare now for warmer weather coming this summer to save where possible. As temperatures rise, members could also see a rise in their demand charge with more frequent A/C use.

To keep cool without the cost, practice energy saving behaviors like:

- **Turn up the A/C a few degrees.** A couple degrees can result in noticeable savings without making you uncomfortable.
- **Pair A/C with a fan.** Fans circulate air that makes you feel cooler. Remember to turn them off in an empty room.

- **Install a smart thermostat.** Smart thermostats can learn your routines and be adjusted remotely to save energy.
- **Monitor your demand.** Lowering demand is as simple as not stacking the use of electric appliances at the same time. United Power also offers ways for members to monitor their energy use to see what drives their household demand.

You can find additional tips on our website at [www.unitedpower.com/energy-tips](http://www.unitedpower.com/energy-tips).

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## Rates Increase June 1; Billing Options Available

billing options such as Budget Billing, which provides the same predictable payment each month. The team can also provide information about assistance organizations in the co-op's service territory that can provide counseling and resources for those having trouble paying their bill.

The member services team can be reached during normal business hours by phone at 303-637-1300 or via live online chat at [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com). Likewise, members may email the United Power team at [memberservices@unitedpower.com](mailto:memberservices@unitedpower.com).



## Summer Event Calendar

**May 23**

**Firestone Summer Blast Off**

Harney Park

10245 Devonshire St., Firestone

**June 1**

**Brighton Summerfest**

Carmichael Park

650 E Southern St., Brighton

**June 1**

**Johnstown BBQ Day**

Historic Downtown Johnstown

**June 21-23**

**Frederick in Flight**

Centennial Park

630 Eighth St., Frederick

**July 3**

**Stars & Stripes**

Riverdale Regional Park

9755 Henderson Road, Brighton

**July 4**

**4th at Firestone**

Miners Park

150 Grant Ave., Firestone

**July 6**

**Independence Day Celebration**

Community Center Park

201 S. Rollie Ave., Fort Lupton

**July 17-21**

**Chainsaws & Chuckwagons**

Centennial Park

630 Eighth St., Frederick

**July 19-21**

**Gilpin County Fair**

Gilpin County Fairgrounds

230 Norton Drive, Black Hawk

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Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



## Grant Program Renewed

Member Choice Grant nominations are now open.

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## Member Discount Coupon

Receive \$5 adult admission at the Colorado Speedway. Coupon Inside.

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## Annual Meeting Recap

Members and guests gathered to celebrate the co-op's 85th Anniversary.

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## SPECIAL INSERT

### 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

View the entire Annual Report at [www.unitedpower.com/annual-reports](http://www.unitedpower.com/annual-reports).

### STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR CO-OP

- [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com)
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- [/unitedpowercoop](https://www.youtube.com/unitedpowercoop)

### CONTACT YOUR CO-OP

Member Services .....303-637-1300

Outage Line .....303-637-1350

### CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Beverly Ratliff, Mead
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Dustin Phelps, Lochbuie  
Brad Lockhart, Frederick

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

- Board of Directors**  
Ursula J. Morgan  
Chair
- Brian A. McCormick  
Vice-Chair
- Stephen Whiteside  
Secretary
- Keith Alquist  
Treasurer
- Tamra Waitemath  
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
- Ginny Buczek  
Brad Case
- Steve Douglas  
Elizabeth "Beth" A. Martin
- James Vigesaa  
Paige Wagner-Maul
- President & Chief Executive Officer**  
Mark A. Gabriel
- EVP & Chief Financial Officer**  
Laurie Burkhart
- SVP & Chief Operating Officer**  
Jan Kuhlmann
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# UNITED NEWSLINE

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