ISSUE 6 2024

UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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Historic Grid Innovation United Power and Ameresco Celebrate New Battery Energy Storage System

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IMPORTANT DATES

EPTEMBER	National	Preparedness
II Month		Month

Sept. 27 Member Choice Grants
Nomination Deadline

OCTOBER All Month

th

April 16, 2025

Annual Meeting & Director Election

National Co-op Month

Project is Colorado's Largest Distributed Battery Energy Storage System

United Power's approach to energy solutions frequently includes the implementation of groundbreaking and industry-leading innovation. In July, the cooperative hosted a ribbon cutting at its Bromley substation in Brighton to recognize a historic partnership and celebrate the completion of one of these innovative projects.

Last year, the co-op announced a collaboration with Ameresco, a leading cleantech integrator, to install eight battery storage systems through its service territory as the cooperative pursues hyper-localization opportunities. Construction will be completed soon, representing the largest distributed battery energy storage system



www.unitedpower.com

Report an Outage 303-637-1350 Member Services 303-637-1300 in Colorado and the largest such system in Ameresco's 24-year history.

"The use of batteries on our distribution network is essential to a resilient and responsive grid, and we are excited to be moving ahead with one of the most aggressive plans for such systems," said Mark A. Gabriel, United Power's President and CEO.

The battery storage systems are connected to United Power's distribution system, allowing them to charge through the grid during periods of low consumption and low cost and discharge during peak demand windows. This reduces demand and allows the cooperative to balance its load throughout the day. It will also allow for seamless integration of additional local renewable resources in the future.

There are four 11.75 MW and four 7.84 MW systems strategically located at cooperative—owned substations in Adams, Broomfield, and Weld counties, providing nearly 80 MW and 313 MWh of capacity. Seven of the storage facilities have been fully integrated into United Power's system. The remaining facility is expected to be completed by the end of September and placed in operation in October.

"Partnering with United Power on these transformational battery storage systems has been incredible," said Jonathan Mancini, Senior Vice President of Solar Project Development at Ameresco. "Energy storage plays — and will continue to play — a crucial role in enhancing grid reliability, optimizing renewable energy utilization, and fostering a resilient and efficient energy future."

Ameresco integrated energy management software from Stem to efficiently operate and maintain the system. Stem specializes in artificial intelligence-driven software designed to maximize the economic, environmental, and resiliency values for solar and battery storage assets. The combination of Ameresco's battery storage facilities and Stem's software will ensure United Power gets the most return from these batteries over the next 20 years.

"These systems will provide additional data points about energy distribution on our system," said Dean Hubbuck, United Power's Senior Vice President and Chief Energy Resource Officer. "It will help inform decisions about how we operate and maintain the distribution system to increase its resiliency and reliability for members."



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.

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.

Fall is rapidly upon us, and we have successfully managed our first summer as an independent electric cooperative. It has been a hot summer and despite naysayers, the amazingly dedicated women and men of United Power have led us through this significant transition.

United Power's loads continue to grow. Combining new sources of power and innovative technology, we have managed the system in a new and exciting way. As of May 1, we immediately reduced our carbon intensity by 26%, all while setting new peak loads, month over month. Our investment in nearly 80 MW of battery energy storage systems paid for itself just two weeks after the official ribbon cutting in July. On Aug. 2, we hit an all-time historical peak of nearly 650 MW. The true load had we not deployed battery storage - and initiated demand response - would have been 719 MW! This is up from the 2023 peak of 634 MW. The batteries meant we were able to buy lower cost and lower carbon power at night and use it during peak hours from 4-8 p.m. instead of purchasing expensive fossil fuel alternatives.

There is tremendous value in having a diverse portfolio of generation and large-scale storage resources. As United Power members, you do not have to wait until the end of the decade for the energy transition, as other cooperatives are doing. We are living it now with a wide range of power suppliers — 26 at last count — bringing a lower carbon and more flexible energy supply. Hydropower, wind, solar, storage, and gas allow us to have a balanced energy portfolio.

An increasing number of our members are adding solar, storage, and electric vehicles to their lives, and we support these efforts, happily providing critical analytical tools to make sure these decisions are being made with the best and most neutral information possible. United Power fully supports an "all of the above" strategy whether we provide the resource or not. One of United Power's critical goals, as outlined in Our Cooperative Roadmap, is to continually optimize our electric system enabling all technologies to operate seamlessly. For help in these and

other energy savings opportunities, please go to www.unitedpower.com/my-energy.

In addition to the change in power suppliers, United Power is adding intelligence to how we operate and monitor the grid through advanced systems, including:

- A new outage management system, giving us visibility and insight into our operations,
- Advanced metering infrastructure (AMI),
- Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA), the system our operators use to monitor real time performance,
- and a distributed energy resource management system (DERMS).

These tools are all part of our drive to become a Distribution System Operator as we prepare for the evolving energy enterprise. In recognition of our commitment to innovation, knowledge sharing, and moving the industry forward, United Power was just honored with the Survalent Industry Innovation Award.

I am particularly excited about several developments that support our members and critical community resources thanks to the benefits of the Inflation Reduction Act and Empower Rural America (New ERA) Program.

- United Power has been awarded \$700,000 to place batteries in four fire stations across the service territory to improve reliability.
- We will receive \$6.4 million to supply Fort Lupton's Water Treatment Facility with floating solar and storage.
- Golden Aluminum is receiving \$22.5 million to convert some of their equipment from natural gas to electric power.

We are also in the final stages of seeking a large New ERA grant that can help in our transition to lower carbon resources.

All of these exciting changes happen thanks to the dedication of our employees and support from your Board of Directors. As always, I welcome your questions, comments and concerns.

Director Earns Certificate

South District Director Steve Douglas Receives Board Leadership Certificate

Steve Douglas, who represents the South District on United Power's Board of Directors, received his Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) in July. The BLC is the second step in the National Rural Electric Association's Director Education Program. Douglas is now eligible to earn the final certification in the program, Director Gold.

Directors who earn the final certification are required to take continuing education courses. Earlier this year, Directors Ginny Buczek, Beth Martin, Brian A. McCormick, and Tamra Waltemath all renewed their Director Gold certifications.

All of United Power's directors are committed to achieving the highest levels of certification and professional training. Ten of the cooperative's eleven directors have completed at least the BLC, and seven directors are Director Gold certified. Paige Wagner-Maul, who was elected to represent the Central District at the cooperative's Annual Meeting in April, has begun the first step in the program, the Credentialed Cooperative Director.



United Power Board Secretary Stephen Whiteside (right) presents Steve Douglas with his Board Leadership Certificate.

RECIPES



Apple Pie Ice Cream

3 Tbsp unsalted butter
1 lb apples, peeled & chopped (about 4 cups)
3/4 tsp kosher salt
3/4 cup sugar
12 oz can evaporated milk

7 egg yolks 2 cups cream

1/8 tsp cinnamon

1 cup roughly chopped tea biscuits

Melt butter in a heavy saucepan over medium heat. Stir in apples and 1/4 tsp salt. Increase heat to high. Cook until apples resemble applesauce. Reduce heat and cook until apples become a smooth sauce. Add 1/4 cup sugar. Increase heat and cook until apples turn dark caramel color. Stir frequently.

Transfer to blender with evaporated milk and puree for 30 seconds. Let cool.

Whisk yolks and 1/2 cup sugar in saucepan until combined. Whisk in apple puree, cream, cinnamon, and remaining salt. Cook over medium heat, whisking frequently, until a custard forms. Pour through strainer and chill overnight. Churn next day, stir in biscuits, and freeze at least three hours.

Source: Serious Eats

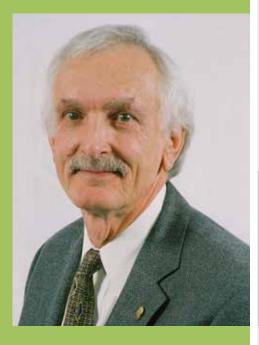
Former Director Passes

Ray Kilgore Served 15 Years on the United Power Board of Directors

Former United Power Director William "Ray" Kilgore passed away in July. Kilgore was a businessman, establishing and operating the Farmers Elevator in Brush and the Colorado Tool Center in Englewood.

Kilgore served on the advisory councils for the Pickens Technical Center in Aurora and the Bohlmann Technical Center in Denver. He also served the City of Brighton on the Board of Adjustment and the Charter Chair Commission, before joining the United Power Board in 1994.

While on the United Power Board, he served as the Board's delegate to the Colorado Rural Electric Association for four years, from April of 2005 until April of 2009. Kilgore left the Board in 2009 after serving the cooperative's members for 15 years.



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

What is a Disaster Plan?

September is National Preparedness Month

Colorado is no stranger to weather-related disasters and record-breaking storm systems. Strong storms may dump feet of snow, generate destructive wind speeds, or spark a devastating wildfire. Each September, the Federal Emergency Management Agency recognizes National Preparedness Month to educate and empower Americans to take simple steps to prepare for and respond to potential emergencies that could affect us where we live, work, and visit. Plan ahead this year and be prepared for disasters.

Make a Plan. Expecting the unexpected begins with having a plan in place. Coordinate with your family, loved ones, or caregivers to respond quickly in a disaster or weather-related emergency. A plan should include the following:

- Create a support network of family, friends, and others, including caregivers, who can assist you during an emergency. Establish two-way communications, transportation, and living arrangements between you and your care community, especially if power is interrupted. Consider how pets or service animals can continue receiving care, if necessary.
- Make sure at least one person in your support network has an extra key to your home, knows where you keep your emergency supplies, and knows how to use life-saving equipment or administer medicine.

If you undergo routine treatments at a clinic or hospital, find out their emergency plans and work with them to identify backup service providers.

If you rely on any devices for physical assistance, plan on how you will have those with you during an evacuation, if required.

Build a Kit. Gather supplies for several days, considering your unique needs. Include items such as food and water; medications and medical supplies; any necessary medical documentation, such as Medicaid, Medicare, and other insurance cards; pet supplies; batteries and chargers; etc. You may also include items such as a first aid kit, flashlight, and radio. Remember to keep your kit updated.

For more information on National Preparedness Month, including sample emergency communications plans, organizations you can volunteer with during disasters, and more, visit www.ready.gov.



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

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

What items would you recommend to include in an emergency preparedness kit?

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:	
Phone:	

UNITED POWER PRIDE



United Power Pride Photos



United Power Helps Light Navajo Nation

Weeks-Long Initiative Brought Power to More Than 150 Families

"It is indescribably upsetting that anyone in this day and age should not have access to electricity."

Apprentice Lineworker Isaiah Segoviano is one of two United Power employees who spent a week in July working in the grueling Arizona heat helping build the infrastructure necessary to supply hundreds of Navajo families with the life-changing resource of electricity. The mutual aid initiative, called Light Up Navajo, is aimed at connecting the people of the Navajo Nation to power, and is made possible by the

"IT IS INDESCRIBABLY
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cooperative efforts of more than 250 volunteers from 48 utilities across 16 states.

The Navajo Nation is the largest federally recognized Native American reservation in the United States,

occupying an area greater than 27,000 square miles across parts of Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. Many of its residents are currently living without electricity because large land parcels, passed through several generations of Navajo tribal families, are in isolated locations that are often difficult and cost-prohibitive to serve.

Electric cooperatives uniquely understand the struggle for electrification. Before the Rural Electrification Act was passed in 1936, larger electric utilities ignored requests from American families living by the light of kerosene lamps in sparsely populated rural areas. Cooperatives were formed to power these rural areas, and while power was flowing to more than 90% of farms by the early 1950s, the Navajo Nation did not reap the same benefits. It would have to wait until 1959 before the Navajo Tribal Utilities Authority (NTUA) was founded. At the time of its creation, the NTUA was only a small water utility operating out of New Mexico. It has grown into the largest multi-utility owned and operated by an American Indian tribe but has had to play catch up to provide electrification for its vast territory.

The NTUA has conducted an ambitious years—long effort to provide electricity to nearly 7,800 homes within the territory, but more than 13,000 still remain without access. The Light Up Navajo initiative was launched in 2018 in coordination with the American Public Power Association to address the great needs of families living in the Navajo Nation. United Power's Segoviano and Logan Steele, Troubleshooter, joined the initiative's fifth project phase.

"We were working 12-hour shifts in 100-degree weather to set poles and string lights," said Segoviano. "But at the end of the day, the people were so grateful, and it was heartwarming to witness families receive power for the first time in their lives."

United Power sent two trucks and additional electrical equipment with Segoviano and Steele who helped set approximately 70 poles and string miles of line over six days in July. During the project's 13week window from mid-April



to July, crews strung a total of 50 miles of line and provided power to 150 homes despite difficult terrain and extreme temperatures.

Light Up Navajo's first phase was able to plant more than 3,400 poles and string nearly 60 miles of line to provide power to 233 homes in 2019. Subsequent phases and mutual aid programs have connected nearly 500 additional homes. NTUA has since been able to provide an additional 2,500 homes with electricity.

"The workers with NTUA expressed their gratitude to us for offering our availability to help with this project," said Segoviano. "They said that we are their forever brothers."

Electric cooperatives were established more than 85 years ago to bring electricity to unserved communities like those in the Navajo Nation. United Power has a long history of supporting projects designed to deliver power to difficult locations or remote communities, both locally and internationally. The cooperative sent a representative to help power mountain villages in Guatemala in 2018 and 2019. Everyone should have access to electricity and the life-changing opportunities it provides, and these projects demonstrate a tangible commitment to the co-op principles upon which United Power was founded.



Brighton Lobby Closure

Sept. 6 — Oct. 14

United Power's Brighton lobby, payment kiosk, and drop box will be closed temporarily due to construction to the parking lot and sidewalks.

Please plan to use an alternative payment method during this time.

Ways to Pay Your Bill:

- Online Account log in to your online account at www.unitedpower.com or through the United Power mobile app to pay with a check or credit card.
- Pay Now make a quick online payment with no password on the co-op's website.
- Pay by Phone call 303-637-1300 and select option 2 to pay with a check or credit card.

Payment kiosks in Fort Lupton, Carbon Valley, and Coal Creek remain open and accept cash, check, and credit card payments.

For a kiosk location near you, visit www.unitedpower.com/kiosks.

For construction schedule updates or alternative payment methods, please visit www.unitedpower.com or call our member services team at 303-637-1300. We appreciate your patience.

PAYMENT KIOSK & DROP BOX will NOT be accessible

Please use alternate payment method.

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Utility-Scale Battery Storage Integration

United Power's integration of battery storage will continue later this year with the addition of another utility-scale facility through a partnership with Whetstone Power (Whetstone), further enhancing the cooperative's already robust distribution system. The system will have 34 MW of capacity and be located at a cooperative substation. Connected to the grid, it will provide similar benefits to Ameresco's dispersed systems, including load balancing, demand shifting, and renewable integration.

Whetstone's system will feature six hours of total discharge, providing additional grid stability. The system is expected to discharge approximately 74 gigawatt-hours of capacity in its first year of operation.

"It was a real pleasure to work with the experienced team at United Power and find the ideal solution to meet their needs for helping to ensure clean, sustainable, and resilient energy for years to come," said Collin Franceschi, Whetstone Power's founding partner.



Whetstone also manages Solar of Alamosa. United Power entered a power purchase agreement last summer with Solar of Alamosa for the project's full 30 MW of output.

To learn more about United Power's industry-leading energy transition outlined in its longterm vision for the future, read Our Cooperative Roadmap at www.unitedpower.com/roadmap.

2024 Member Choice Grants Open

Nominations Accepted Through Sept. 27

Member Choice Grants, a program that allows United Power members to nominate local nonprofits for cooperative grants, is returning for 2024. Nominations for this year's round of grants 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.

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 must be received by Sept. 27 to ensure consideration, and the process is quick and simple. Nonprofits must be located within the United Power service territory. Recipients will be announced in the December newsletter. To learn more about Member Choice Grants or nominate a local nonprofit, visit www.unitedpower.com/memberchoice.



Nominate A Nonprofit!

www.unitedpower.com/memberchoice





October is National Co-op Month

Members Invited to Celebrate Cooperative Contributions

Cooperatives are businesses wholly owned by the members they serve and designed to meet a community's needs. They exist across a multitude of markets and industries, including food and agriculture, finance and banking, consumer retail, insurance, healthcare, and more. Electric distribution cooperatives like United Power were formed more than 85 years ago when farmers and business owners in rural areas of the country observed a need and found a way to meet it. Together, more than 900 electric cooperatives provide power to approximately 75% of the country's landmass and make up more than 40% of the nation's electric grid.

This October, members are invited to join in recognizing National Co-op Month, a celebration of the contributions cooperatives make in our lives. What sets co-ops apart from their for-profit and investor-owned counterparts is the emphasis on serving members and empowering communities. United Power is deeply invested in providing resources to help each community on its lines establish their own unique visions for the future.

As the communities United Power serves have grown, so too has the cooperative and its commitment to supporting those communities. The co-op has an active and visible presence in the cities and towns it serves. Employees live, work, play, and serve here. Their faces are recognizable on local chamber boards, at nonprofit fundraisers, and at fairs and festivals across the fast-growing communities in United Power's 900–square–mile service territory. United Power puts money back into the community every year in the form of sponsorships, scholarships, and youth leadership development.

The cooperative announced an increase of nearly \$10,000 in scholarship awards in the spring and introduced two new lineworker scholarships of \$7,500 each. In the summer, six local high school



Did you know? Despite serving the smallest geographic footprint of any Colorado cooperative, United Power has the largest load and the second highest meter count.



students were selected to represent the cooperative on youth leadership trips to Washington, D.C. and Steamboat Springs. In August, the cooperative was the presenting sponsor of the Adams County Fair, one of the largest county fairs in the country, in addition to supporting community celebrations in Fort Lupton, Frederick, Mead, Keenesburg, Gilpin County, and many more.

While United Power exists to provide safe and reliable power, the cooperative is more than just your local energy provider. The co-op is **Here for Good**, supporting the economic development and prosperity of its communities and members.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF UNITED POWER, INC.

DATE OF NOTICE: September 6, 2024

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF UNITED POWER, INC. 500 COOPERATIVE WAY, BRIGHTON, COLORADO 80603.

The Board of Directors Proposes to amend the Bylaws of United Power, Inc. as follows:

- Establishes eligibility requirements for any director candidate to assure he/she is in good standing with the cooperative.
- Extending the required period of membership for eligible director candidates from two (2) years to three (3) years.
- Extending the required period for a prior cooperative employee, prior employee of a statewide association of electric cooperatives, an electric generation and transmission cooperative, material supply cooperative, financial cooperative, national electric cooperative, or other entity in which the electric cooperative is a member, or has been a member, or a close relative of a prior employee of the cooperative must wait before being eligible to serve as a director from three (3) years to ten (10) years.
- Defines the requirements a person representing a legal entity must meet to be eligible to be a candidate for a director.

A complete redline of the proposed changes is available on the cooperative's website at www.unitedpower.com, or members may obtain a hardcopy at any United Power office, or via mail by calling 303-637-1300 and requesting that a copy be mailed to them at the address on file with the cooperative.

Pursuant to Article 11, Section 8 of the Bylaws of United Power Inc., you are hereby notified that the Board of Directors of United Power, Inc. proposes to adopt the following amendment(s) to United Power's bylaws at a meeting of the Board to be held on October 23, 2024, unless a written petition is filed at United Power's headquarters before close of business on October 22, 2024, signed by 100 or more Members, protesting the proposed amendments.

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Light Up Navajo

United Power lineworkers spent a week in July helping electrify Navajo homes.

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Grant Program Renewed

Member Choice Grant nominations are now open.

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National Co-op Month

Members are invited to recognize and celebrate co-op contributions.

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CONTACT YOUR CO-OP

Member Services303-637-1300 Outage Line303-637-1350

CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

1st Place: Jayne Ruesch, Broomfield 2nd Place: Theresa Woytek, Thornton

Elizabeth DeLisa, Brighton

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

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Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO 80603



