

March
2021



Beyond the Wire

Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Saturday, March 20

**Drive-Thru between
10:00 a.m. & Noon**

**Bulldog Bowl
Parking Lot**
(Bulldog Blvd, Artesia)

\$50 gift card
for the first 200
members who register
(limit one per membership)

Due to the possibility of Artesia Public Schools sporting events, the location of the Annual Meeting might move from the Bulldog Bowl. Of course we won't know this until closer to the date, so please watch our website and our Facebook page for any changes.

All members who register will be eligible to win door prizes. We will draw for door prizes on Monday, March 22, at the CVE office and then contact the winners.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

Because of the current Public Health Order, an in-person traditional Annual Meeting cannot occur this year. However, CVE will accept nominations from the floor for the Board of Trustee seats that are up for election.

- **District 4 – Dexter/Hagerman: Wesley Pilley (incumbent)**
- **District 7 – Hope: Michael Bennett (incumbent)**
- **District 3 – Cottonwood/Lake Arthur: Steve Spence (incumbent)**
- **District 6 – North of Roswell: Chuck Wagner (incumbent)**

To make a nomination from the floor you must personally hand-deliver a Nomination Form to the CVE office on either March 18 or March 19, during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

For more information on this process and/or to obtain a Nomination Form, please give us a call at 575-746-3571.

Recent Arctic Weather and Rolling Blackouts

Central Valley Electric Cooperative wants to take this opportunity to let members know what happened last month (February 15-16) during the extreme cold weather and rolling blackouts. Because of the unprecedented weather conditions the generation of electricity was hindered causing the need to conserve energy and therefore resulting in the need for power interruptions. Renewable energy such as wind and solar were not online generating adequate power and generation facilities were having a tough time getting natural gas piped in because of freezing conditions. Below is a timeline of what took place between February 15-16.

The Southwest Power Pool (SPP) is the regional transmission organization that oversees the bulk electric grid and wholesale power market for CVE as well as numerous other utilities and transmission companies across 14 states in the central United States.

Monday, February 15

Level 1:

At 5:00 a.m. on Monday, February 15, SPP declared an Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) Level 1, because of extreme cold weather. The EEA Level 1 let CVE know all available resources had been committed to meet obligations and SPP was at risk of not meeting required operating reserves.

Level 2:

Things escalated quickly and by 7:22 a.m., SPP moved to an EEA Level 2, which required member utilities, such as CVE, to start conserving energy. As a result of the EEA Level 2, CVE put information on our Facebook page and our website urging members to start conserving energy.

Level 3:

By 10:08 a.m., an EEA Level 3 was declared and SPP was forced to begin relying on required reserve energy.

Return to Level 2:

By 2:00 p.m. SPP declared a return to EEA Level 2, restoring load to the region with enough generation to meet demand and minimum reserve requirements.



Tuesday, February 16

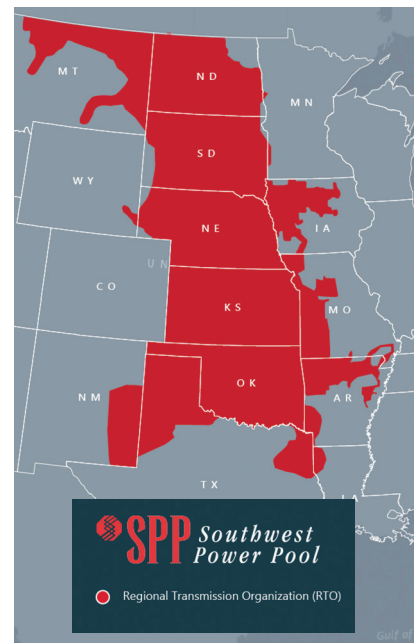
At 5:45 a.m., SPP declared another EEA Level 3 and CVE was directed to start restricting energy use and were required to take 6.5 mega-watts off the system. By 6:20 a.m. we started interrupting circuits at various substations. Our goal was to interrupt service for about 40 minutes and then move to different circuits at different substations, trying our best not to interrupt peoples service more than once. *Much strategy and teamwork went into making this happen in the least intrusive manner possible.*

By about 9:20 a.m. we were notified that SPP restored all load, meaning it had enough generating capacity to meet demand and we were able to stop interrupting power. Throughout the day and as situations changed the EEA Levels were downgraded

Bottom Line:

We want our members to know that we never want to interrupt your electric service, but when our regional transmission authority calls on us to shed load, we are required to do so. Having 30-to-40-minute power outages helped take the load off the grid, so we didn't have a complete blackout situation leaving everyone without power for an unknown amount of time. As soon as we got information from SPP, we did our best to inform our members through Facebook and our website. We also sent information to local radio stations and local Chamber of Commerce offices.

We apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused you and we thank you for your understanding. All efforts were appreciated.



Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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