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# Beyond the Wire Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.



### **CVE** Compared to Other Co-ops

The Cooperative Finance Corporation puts together a Key Ratio Trend Analysis for electric distribution cooperatives every year. The KRTA is a report card that compares Central Valley Electric Cooperative to other electric distribution cooperatives in the United States.

CVE's rates are a function of our wholesale power costs, and the 2022 KRTA shows residential wholesale power costs (per kilowatt hour) are some of the lowest in New Mexico and the nation.

### 2022 KRTA Highlights:

• <u>Residential Rate</u>:

CVE's average residential rate in 2022 was \$0.116 per kWh. That ranks in the lowest 13 percent in the U.S. and one of the lowest in New Mexico (U.S. average: \$0.134 per kWh; NM average: \$0.152 per kWh). This number should be lower for 2023 with lower wholesale power costs and a consistent decrease in the Fuel Cost Adjustment.

#### • <u>Irrigation Rate</u>:

CVE's irrigation rate is ranked in the lowest 25 percent in the nation.

#### • Equity as a Percentage of Assets:

This represents the percentage of total assets each CVE co-op member owns. In 2022, each CVE member had 54 percent, while the national average was approximately 45 percent.



#### • <u>Total Controllable Expenses</u>:

CVE is ranked in the lowest 6 percent in the nation for total controllable expenses to members, per total kWh. This caluclation includes wages and benefits.

#### • <u>Total Utility Plant</u>:

CVE is one of the largest co-op's in New Mexico in terms of utility plant installed, which includes co-op assets (poles, wire, meters, buildings, fleet, etc.).

• <u>Total Cost of Electric Service (per kWh sold)</u>: CVE is ranked in the lowest 16 percent of total cost of electric service per kWh sold in the U.S.

Your co-op's board of trustees, management, and employees work hard to help keep electric rates and expenses as low as possible.





### **Farm Safety Week**

#### September 17 to 23

Farmers and ranchers face dangers every day. Although tragedies such as tractor rollovers and grain bin suffocation receive the most attention, electrocution, and electrical burn accidents are frequent on farms. Electrical safety is one of the priorities during National Farm Safety and Health Week, typically observed the third week of September.

## When working on the farm, keep these electrical safety tips in mind:

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines.
- Always keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines at all times, and in all directions.
- Look up and use care when moving equipment around power lines, such as extending augers or raising the bed of grain trucks.
- Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearances.
- Always set extensions to the lowest setting when moving loads to prevent contact with overhead power lines. Grain augers should always be positioned horizontally before being moved.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- If a power line is sagging or low, contact CVE or your local electric utility.

If any equipment does make contact with a power line, do not leave the cab. Immediately call 911, warn others to stay away, and wait for the utility crew to cut the power. The only reason to exit the equipment that has come into contact with overhead lines is if the equipment is on fire, which is rare. However, if this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together and without touching the ground and the machinery at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, slowly shuffle your feet, moving them no further than heel to toe. Once you've shuffled your feet about 40 to 50 feet away from the contacted equipment you can walk normally.

CVE asks farmers and ranchers to do their part by educating themselves as well as their workers on electrical hazards to keep everyone safe this harvest season.



Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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