



John Villyard, CEO

San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative

Tried and true is good; but, sometimes new and different is better. That's what we are hoping with SLVREC's redesigned Annual Meeting format.

Before we revamped our program, we considered several key points. First, energy issues facing us today affect everyone, not just co-op members. Energy supply concerns, the shift to renewable generation sources, energy conservation, transmission and other energy topics are timely for all.

Second, the Valley doesn't currently offer many opportunities for face-to-face discussions and community dialogue

for those who want to learn more about energy issues. We hoped to change that.

Third, there are existing Valley programs—like the Ag Conference—that work well for information exchange. We used this successful format as a model for our revised program.

I would like to invite everyone in the Valley to attend SLVREC's Energy Fair on June 8. We've lined up vendors who will offer information and product booths on energy conservation, renewable energy and more. Speakers will address specific topics. Attendees can pick and choose topics of interest to them.

We'll also kick off our newest program at the Fair: a 2 for 2 light bulb exchange. Anyone who brings in two incandescent bulbs can swap them for two compact fluorescent lamps.

SLVREC will provide free light refreshments to attendees throughout the day. Food vendors (so far, we have lined

Energy Fair: June 8, Ski Hi Park 11 to 5

up Bubba Hide, SLV Pizza and Blessed Brews) will also offer meals for sale for those who require more substantial fare.

We're excited about the speakers who will participate. Ron Ebenkamp from Tri-State Generation & Transmission will talk about the Energy Efficiency Credits program through which our members can receive rebates on many energy efficient items. Amy Charlton, Colorado Rural Electric Association's legislative assistant, will provide information on energy issues facing Coloradans.

Tamara Ellentuck and/or Mike Flaherety will talk about the newly forged partnership between Veteran's Green Jobs and SLVREC. Their discussion will offer information on weatherization programs available for free to low-income residents in the Valley. Hew Hallock from the Governor's Energy Office will offer information on state programs.

Brad Jones, public affairs manager at Tri-State, will offer up-to-date information on the Southern Colorado Transmission Improvement project.

The much shorter Annual Meeting will follow the Energy Fair at 6 p.m. The meeting will be open to members.

We've made many changes; but, we kept the parts members like best! Our grand door prize will be a \$1,000 gift certificate toward the purchase of an ENERGYSTAR appliance. Among other door prizes, we will offer four \$250 electric bill credits. Each membership will receive a gift bag too.

We're excited about the new format and we hope you are too. Please plan to attend the Energy Fair on June 8! I look forward to seeing you there.

**SAN LUIS VALLEY
RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OP**

Serving the Valley Since 1937
3625 US Hwy 160 W
P.O. Box 3625
Monte Vista, CO 81144