

Member Information

HomeServe program kicking off

Important Information for San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Members and Employees:

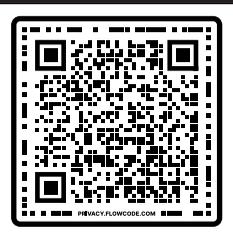
Get peace of mind against emergency home repair costs

San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative has partnered with HomeServe,* an independent company that offers *optional* coverage to eligible members to help protect against the costs of unexpected breakdowns.

See why over **4.6 million customers** in North America trust HomeServe. Explore plans now.



Keep an eye on the mail for more information.



Partnering with HomeServe

Scan this code, call HomeServe at **1-833-334-1874** or visit **HSPlans.com/SLVREC** to learn more about plans available in your area.

*HomeServe USA Repair Management Corp., Norwalk CT. HomeServe is an independent company separate from San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. Plans cover repairs, up to the benefit amount for damage typically from normal wear and tear to covered items. Plans subject to eligibility requirements, waiting period, and exclusions. Call or go online for full terms.

We heard you: Annual meeting changes coming

In recent years, attendance at our annual meetings has declined. Based on the valuable input we received from members in November, we're refreshing the format of this year's meeting to create a better experience for you.

Stay tuned for details on this year's Telephone Town Hall Meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 9. In addition we'll be hosting a member appreciation picnic this summer.

Member feedback is incredibly valuable to help us better serve and celebrate our cooperative community. Thank you again for sharing your thoughts!

THIS ISSUE

Member Information

Information/Efficiency/Ciello

Eric Eriksen

Eriksen continued

Recipe/Historical Happenings

FEBRUARY 2026 | VOLUME 53 | ISSUE 2

Member Information

Save energy with smarter lighting choices

When choosing bulbs for your home, don't just pay attention to watts—look at lumens as well, which measure the brightness. (Watts = energy consumed, and lumens = brightness)

Careful selection of lumens for each space in your

home makes all the difference. Choose bright, focused light for kitchens and workspaces and warm, softer light for bedrooms and living rooms.

This balance not only improves comfort and function, but it can also help you save energy.

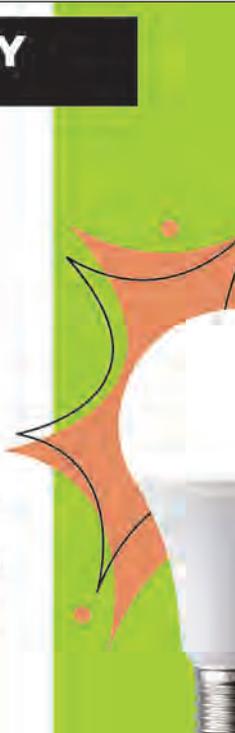
Home Lighting Guide Sources: Home Depot, Alcon Lighting

The following information outlines recommendations for home lighting, however, additional options for bulbs, fixtures and spaces in your home may be available.

Room/Area	Recommended Lumens	Fixture Types	Smart Tips
 Living Room	15-30 per sq. ft. 150 sq. ft. room 2,250 - 4,500 lumens	Ceiling fixtures, can lighting, lamps/ accent lighting	Use smart bulbs to adjust color temp and control remotely.
 Kitchen	30-40 per sq. ft. 100 sq. ft. room 3,000 - 4,000 lumens	Recessed ceiling lights or flush mounts	Smart switches can be used to control zones (dining vs. prep); undercabinet motion lights offer late-night illumination.
 Dining Room	10-20 per sq. ft. 100 sq. ft. room 1,000 - 2,000 lumens	Pendant or chandelier fixture	Smart, dimmable bulbs allow various levels of brightness for ambiance.
 Bedroom	10-20 per sq. ft. 120 sq. ft. room 1,200 - 2,400 lumens	Ceiling fixtures or recessed lighting	Motion sensors are great options for nighttime use.
 Bathroom	50-80 per sq. ft. 60 sq. ft. room 3,000 - 4,000 lumens	Over-vanity fixtures and/or recessed lighting	Cool LED bulbs provide brighter light for shaving, applying makeup, etc.
 Porch/Home Entry	100-200 per sq. ft. 100 sq. ft. entry 10,000 - 20,800 lumens	Wall lanterns, ceiling mount and/or floodlights	Motion-activated flood lights and/or smart outdoor bulbs are energy efficient and boost home security.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Mid-winter is a great time to ensure you're making the most of your home heating system. Replace or clean filters to keep your furnace or heat pump running efficiently. Listen for strange noises and check for uneven heating—these signs indicate that the system may need servicing. Ensure vents and radiators aren't blocked by furniture or rugs as proper airflow helps your system work less and saves energy. A little maintenance along the way can prevent costly repairs and keep your home cozy through winter.



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"I've used all three [Viaero, Jade, Ciello]. Ciello is the best and never has the issues the others frequently have."
-Judith Stone, Facebook

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Ciello is proud to feature testimonials from our satisfied customers in issues of the Newsboy. Send your testimonials to jalonzo@slvrec.com.



Eric Eriksen

Is irrigation important to you?

If so, then you'll want to register for the 5th Annual Colorado Master Irrigator Program: San Luis Valley. It is coming up soon. Go online to: www.comasterirrigator.org/page/san-luis-valley and register today.

Yes, irrigation is important to me, our employees and all our members. It's over 40 percent of our revenue in a few short months—not to mention the jobs and many other services it provides in the Valley. That's why I'll be presenting on March 2, 2:30 pm at the Rio Grande Water Conservation District. Come say "hi," and learn how you can save water, energy and real dollars through the SLVREC's Electrify & Save: Irrigation program. Professional engineering partners from Adams State University will be joining us. Participants over the past two years have seen real savings—so can you! This is your year.

Launching the 2026 Road Map

In January 2026, we launched the annual Road Map (See figure on Page 4). The "Goals" section of the map illustrates four focus areas: Workforce, Financial, Reliability and Communications. Under each focus area are the associated goals we plan to accomplish this year. Each one is aligned to drive us toward our five-year strategic plan. Here is a brief

description of each one for you:

Workforce

AI Member Service Assistant – to improve the member experience by augmenting the member service employees with AI tools.

Member Service Policies – to simplify and improve the member terms and conditions documents for a better member experience and economic development.

Fiber

Connectivity Mapping – complete integration of the fiber network into GIS mapping.

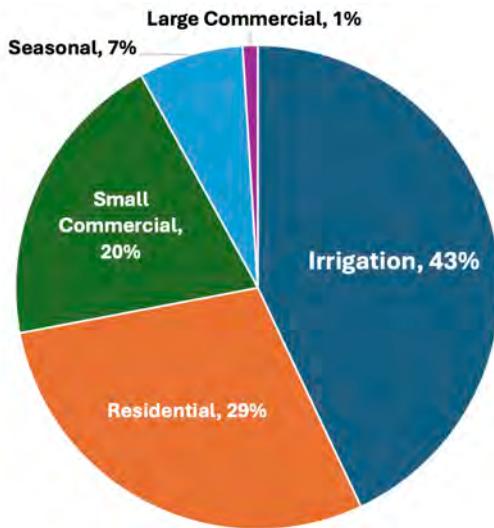
Reliability

Meter Data Management System – to improve meter data analytics for faster and more accurate information used to support members' safe, reliable, and affordable service.

Wildfire Mitigation – mitigate risk by implementing re-engineered "hardened" higher-risk sections of the power line in the western portions of the service area. This work will utilize the \$854,000 grant awarded to SLVREC.

Grid Automation – Strategically implement smart grid "automated"

See ROAD MAP continued on Page 4



2025 Percent Revenue by Rate Class

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Stephen Valdez, President
Conejos/Costilla Counties
719-588-0430

Wade Lockhart, Vice-President
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Email: power@slvrec.com

Your email will be forwarded based on the direction you provide in your subject line.

CEO

Eric Eriksen
719-852-6630

SLVREC Office (toll free)
800-332-7634

SLVREC Office (local calls)
719-852-3538

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ROAD MAP

continued from page 3

devices that can be operated remotely, detect problems, and improve power quality for increased reliability.

AI Grid Inspection – Use Street View cars and piloted drones to capture electric system-wide imagery that will then be analyzed by

AI software. The resulting data will significantly enhance the efficiency of deploying resources for repairs/maintenance

vegetation management, while also saving money.

Financial

Ciello Strategic Plan – this is an update to the original 10-year plan to ensure competitiveness and member-focused services for the long run.

Cyber Security Incident Response Protocols – Develop and practice responding to mock cybersecurity incidents for better preparedness.

Asset Life Cycle Study (depreciation) – A financial study evaluating the aging of the electric and broadband system to support maximized value.

Communications

Member Communication Technology – Implement new software to improve and increase automated member communications and notifications, such as automated outage notifications.

Website Engagement Plan – Evaluate existing website and develop a plan to improve the member experience.

HomeServe – provide an insurance option for members that covers “gaps” in traditional homeowner policies.

We’re here whenever you need us. Connect with us online, in person, or through our social media channels. However you choose to connect, please let us know how we can serve you. Tom Bodett said it best, “We’ll keep the lights on for you





Recipe of the Month

INGREDIENTS

- 2 large eggs
- 2 c. milk or unsweetened plant milk of your choice
- 1/4 c. maple syrup
- 1/4 c. packed brown sugar
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 1 t. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 t. salt
- 2 c. regular rolled oats (not quick cooking)
- 1/3 c. dry amaranth, buckwheat groats or quinoa (optional)

OVERNIGHT BAKED OATMEAL

1. Gather all ingredients. Grease a 2-quart rectangular baking dish.
2. Whisk eggs, milk, maple syrup, brown sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, and salt together in the prepared dish.
3. Stir in oats and amaranth. If desired, stir in flavor variation mix-ins.
4. Cover and chill at least overnight or up to 3 days.
5. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (180 degrees C). Uncover and stir to re-incorporate all of the ingredients.
6. Bake, uncovered, until golden brown and the center is set, 45 to 55 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Serve warm.

www.allrecipes.com

Historical Happenings

From October 2002 Newsboy **Coming Up to Code**

In the last two years, repairing problems with SLVREC's office has become a priority for the cooperative. The building was constructed in 1957. An addition was constructed in 1974.

In 1957, the cooperative employed 26 and served 3,592 meters. In 1974, 36 employees worked at SLVREC and the cooperative served 5,572 meters. Today, the cooperative employs 58 people and provides service to just over 11,000 meters.

A lack of both office space and warehouse space are the most obvious problems with the current facility. However; more serious issues include inadequate ventilation, a lack of fire walls within the building, and an inappropriate mix of occupancy types. For example, the shop is the primary location for welding and cutting. It is located next to several offices and storage areas for flammables.

Over the past 45 years, a number of offices have been added in locations that were not designed to house workers. The most significant problems occur near the warehouse. Offices in this area become polluted with diesel and gas exhaust in the mornings and evenings when crews are loading and unloading supplies. Additionally, clearances near electric supply panels are too tight. Other issues that must be addressed include roof leaks and inadequate heating and cooling systems.

Earlier this year, a comprehensive building review was completed and presented to the board of directors. A three-phase plan has been developed. This staged approach will

allow the cooperative to remedy the worst problems first. In preparation for the implementation of the plan, the cooperative purchased the property adjacent to the current facility. Construction of a new shop will begin just west of the current office building this fall.

The new 50' x 100' shop building will have three drive-through bays that will be large enough to accommodate the largest of the cooperative's vehicles—unlike the current shop. The new building will house all flammables in a secure room, thus reducing the potential for catastrophic records loss in the existing building and reducing the potential for injury to employees.

The second phase of the project will not begin if the drought continues. If economic conditions are unfavorable, the cooperative will simply try to patch the roof leaks again. If conditions are favorable, phase two, construction of a new administrative building will begin. This would provide an opportunity for the third phase of the project—remodeling the current structure to house warehousing and operations.

The financing mix for the project has not been fully decided. It will include some combination of deferred capital credits (maximum of two years), long-term financing, and use of reserve funds held for capital investment project needs like this one.

Attend one of the cooperative's round table community meetings or the Cooperative Month Open House on October 30 for more information on the project or to voice your ideas, suggestions, and concerns. ‡

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February 2026



congrats on your Milestone Anniversaries!
 2025



POWERING OUR COMMUNITY

REC's office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Our office will be closed on Monday, Feb. 16 for Presidents' Day.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE
 866-HEAT HELP (866-432-8435)
www.energyoutreach.org

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SCHEDULED MEETINGS
 Board Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
 The REC Board of Directors *typically* meets the last Tuesday of each month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome; advance notice required.

This institution is an equal opportunity employer.

