



POWER LINES



AUGUST 2025

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Investing in Reliability Today—and Tomorrow

by Jack Johnston, CEO

At DMEA, reliability isn't just a goal; it's a promise we work to uphold every day. As your electric cooperative, we're constantly making improvements behind the scenes to ensure your lights stay on and your power remains dependable, no matter the season or circumstance.

To support this commitment, we've made significant investments across our system to strengthen reliability today and build resilience for tomorrow.

One key area of focus is technology. We're upgrading aging equipment with modern, more capable alternatives—like replacing oil-filled, manual hydraulic reclosers with advanced vacuum bottle devices. These new reclosers offer real-time data through fiber-optic, wired connections. They allow our system operators to automatically isolate outages and re-route power, reducing the number of affected members and restoring service more quickly in most situations.

But equipment alone isn't enough. Over the past two years, we have upgraded over 50 reclosers, many in rugged terrain. To support this advanced equipment, Elevate's outside plant crews are also building out a dedicated fiber path directly to our system controls. This high-speed connection gives us real-time monitoring and rapid coordination during

outages, making our grid faster, smarter, and more resilient.

We are already seeing the results. These smart devices and fiber upgrades contribute to our improved reliability score, measured by SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index). This score tracks the average number of outage minutes a member experiences each year. We are proud to report a five-year average of just 150.63 minutes, which is 100 minutes less than the national average.

None of this would be possible without the people behind the system—our 24/7 system operators. No matter the hour, someone is always monitoring the grid—responding to alerts, analyzing load patterns, and coordinating crews. By combining advanced technology with human expertise, we are delivering faster response times, better service, and a higher level of safety for our communities.

In the end, reliability is about more than wires and poles—it's about trust. You rely on us every day, and we take that responsibility seriously. Through strategic investments in innovative technology, locally generated energy, and ongoing system maintenance, DMEA is working hard to deliver safe, reliable power—now and into the future.

2022 Capital Credits are Being Retired

DMEA is looking for members with unclaimed capital credits. Over the years, we've returned millions to current and past members—but some go unclaimed. Check the 2022 list and learn more at dmea.com/capital-credits.

FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Elevate Internet Grant

Each year, Elevate awards one \$10,000 grant to a non-profit organization or agency based in Elevate/DMEA territory. This year, we are focusing on providing assistance to tech-related programs that directly impact the quality of life for our communities.

What we fund:

- ▶ Programs
- ▶ Services
- ▶ Small-scale capital facility improvements
- ▶ Tech-related resources

Application deadline:

September 1, 2025

Find more information & apply at
elevateinternet.com/news/2025-foundations

LIGHT UP NAVAJO

866

families have received electricity since the project began



Electricity paves the way for water, phone service, and broadband.

The Navajo Nation is made up of more than 399,494 tribal members. Covering 27,000 square miles in Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, it is one of the largest tribal nations in the United States. Yet, 10,000 homes remain without electricity and other basic utilities.

In June, DMEA sent two crews to the Navajo Nation, spending one week building power lines and short line extensions. During this visit, along with our visits in 2023 and 2024, we've helped power 499 homes.





ELEVATE Impact



INTERNET FOR ALL

Affordable, reliable internet is essential in today's world, but some families struggle to afford this modern necessity. Elevate is committed to providing every community member in our rural area with high-speed internet. Elevate IMPACT ensures every household can stay connected and thrive.

**IMPACT
Discount**
\$20/month
for internet

| Internet Made for You | Regular Price | with IMPACT Discount | + with Lifeline Discount | MONTHLY COST |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Essential (400 Mbps) | \$54.95 | \$34.95 | \$25.70 | |
| Streamer (1 Gig) | \$79.95 | \$59.95 | \$50.70 | |
| Family (2 Gig) | <small>NEW price</small> \$99.95 | \$79.95 | \$70.70 | |
| Legend (6 Gig) | <small>NEW price</small> \$149.95 | \$129.95 | \$120.70 | |

HOW TO QUALIFY:

Apply for IMPACT and Lifeline at elevateinternet.com/assistance-programs and provide official proof of eligibility.

elevateinternet.com   

844-386-8744 **Hablamos español**

Available in live service areas only. Installation is zero money down and \$10/mo., for 10 months or \$100 upfront. Internet service may be required for TV and phone. Internet speeds up to 6 Gig for wired connections. Prices subject to change. Qualifying subscribers receive a monthly discount of \$20.00, which can be coupled with the Lifeline Discount (\$9.25), resulting in a total discount of \$29.25/month for any plan. Impact participants are required to renew annually.

ELEVATE

LEGENDARY INTERNET

CONCERN *for* COMMUNITY

COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLE #7



DMEA & Elevate Bring Cool Connections to Delta Outdoor Heritage & Safety Days

This year's Delta Outdoor Heritage & Safety Day was held at Confluence Park in Delta. The annual event is a local favorite, drawing families from across the Western Slope to celebrate the region's rich outdoor heritage and learn about recreation and safety.

Delta Outdoor Heritage & Safety Day featured dozens of exhibitors and activities — from BB gun shooting and fly tying to bounce houses, disc golf, archery, rock climbing, and even a fishing derby. It was a true celebration of our outdoor way of life and a reminder of how lucky we are to live in such a vibrant, connected community.

This year, DMEA brought two bucket trucks and a pole to highlight the electricity that powers our lives and keeps our local communities running.

Right alongside, Elevate was serving up free ice cream and signing up local families and businesses with lightning-fast internet. Seeing kids and parents light up over a free scoop and swapping stories about everything from streaming their favorite movies to local electric safety is exactly why we love building community with our members.

Thanks to everyone who stopped by to say hello, learn something new, and enjoy a free ice cream on us. We look forward to continuing our support of Delta County with the reliable electric service and world-class internet you deserve.

"We had so much fun connecting with Delta's community spirit, and adding some extra sweetness to the day."

- Katie Yergensen,
Marketing &
Communications
Director



Montrose Office

11925 6300 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
M, W, F: 8:00am-5:00pm
T & Th: 8:00am-6:00pm

Lead Office

21191 H75 Road
Delta, CO 81416
M - F: 8:00am-5:00pm

Contact Us:

877-687-3632 | dmea.com | [f](#) [v](#) [i](#)

Your Board of Directors:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ryan Sedgeley, District 1 | Steve Metheny, District 2 |
| Jacob Gray, District 3 | Emily Sanchez, District 4 |
| Kevin Williams, District 5 | Damon Lockhart, District 6 |
| Enno Heuscher, District 7 | Stacia Cannon, North |
| Ken Norris, South | |

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



A SENIOR'S GUIDE TO THE DIGITAL WORLD

Feeling lost in our digital world?
Elevate is here to help!

INTRO TO STREAMING - Two sessions

Join Elevate Internet experts to tap into the world of on-line TV. Learn about the differences between cable, live streaming, and on-demand TV, and figure out what's best for you. All classes are from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and are free of charge! Refreshments will be provided.

Tuesday, August 12, Montrose

DMEA Office, Grand Mesa Community Room
11925 6300 Rd., Montrose

Thursday, September 25, Delta

Delta Library Community Room
124 E 6th St., Delta

Participate to win fantastic prizes!

REGISTER TODAY!

at elevateinternet.com/101
or by calling 844-386-8744

THE ELECTRIC STRIP

"THE GREAT FLYER FLUB"

...SOMEWHERE IN DELTA & MONTROSE COUNTIES



FIND MORE SAFETY CROW TIPS AT
DMEA.COM/SAFETY