



# POWER LINES



## Bringing More Than Power: Four Years of Light Up Navajo

by Jack Johnston, CEO

This spring, I had the privilege of joining our DMEA crews on the Navajo Nation for our fourth year participating in the Light Up Navajo project. My daily duties were very different during this trip; I was just a volunteer there to help the crew wherever needed.

The days were very long and the work demanding in some very challenging terrain. Based in Dilkon, Arizona, our crews often spent 5 to 6 hours a day traveling to remote job sites. But every mile was worth it.

There are so many stories and circumstances related to this project, but one family left a lasting impression on me.

We were working to bring electricity to the home of an elderly woman who had lived for years without power. During our conversations, we learned she relied on medication that required refrigeration. Without electricity in her home, she had to store that medication at a neighbor's house and plan whenever she needed access to it.

It was a powerful reminder that reliable electricity is about much more than lights and appliances. It's about health, independence, and quality of life.

When we energized her home, we weren't just making a connection to the grid. We were helping provide peace of mind and the ability to safely store her medication in her own home. That's a moment that will be hard to forget.

Stories like hers remind me why electric cooperatives were created. Decades ago, cooperatives brought power to rural communities that others overlooked. Today, that same spirit continues through programs like Light Up Navajo, where utility crews from across the country work together to help families gain access to essential services.

This year, DMEA crews completed five projects, set 39 poles, and helped energize four homes, including a few homes of veterans, which is always extra special for us. Behind every pole and every connection is a family whose life, and all future generations, have been changed forever.

I'm incredibly proud of our employees who volunteered their time and talents for this effort. Their commitment reflects the cooperative principles of Concern for Community and Cooperation Amongst Cooperatives, but also demonstrates what it means to be helping neighbors.

JULY 2026

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Representatives from DMEA, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, NextEra Energy Resources, & Southwest Power Pool.

The utility crew with a couple who now have power.





# SmartHub: INSIGHTS TO SAVINGS

Monitoring your electric use through your online account can help you spot patterns, identify energy-hungry appliances, and make small changes that add up to real savings. By checking your usage regularly, you can see how weather, routines, or new equipment affect your monthly bill and adjust accordingly.

## Here's How:

1

Log in to your account and select the dropdown arrow next to 'Usage'.

2

Select one of the many ways to view and compare your past electric consumption.

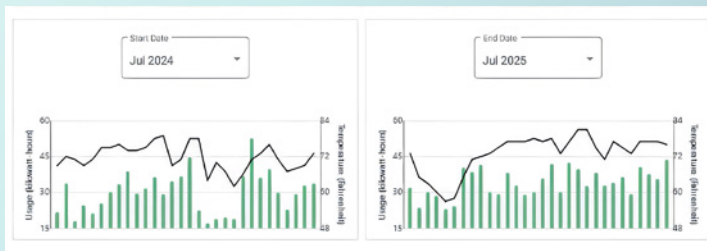
For example, if you want to know how much energy your new air conditioner uses, follow these steps:

- **Usage Comparison:** View a comparison between July 2026 (new AC) and July 2025 (old AC). Make sure to take temperatures into consideration.
- **Usage Tracking:** Add a tracker for the date range you use your air conditioner in the summer.
- **Usage Management:** Download a spreadsheet of usage data for the July 2025 to July 2026 date range and organize the data yourself.



Access your energy data, make informed decisions, and avoid surprises when your bill arrives. [Learn more at dmea.com/smarthub](https://dmea.com/smarthub)

## Usage Comparison:



	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	Difference
Billing Days	06/01/2025 - 07/01/2025	06/01/2026 - 07/01/2026	
Days in Period	30	30	0
Total Usage Charge	\$99.21	\$112.57	↗ \$13.36
Total Monthly Charges	\$137.00	\$151.00	↗ \$14.00
Total Usage	906.00 kWh	1028.00 kWh	↗ 122.00 kWh
Average Daily Usage	30.20 kWh	34.27 kWh	↗ 4.07 kWh
Max Temperature	94°F	96°F	↗ 2°F
Min Temperature	49°F	46°F	↘ -3°F
Avg Temperature	72°F	73°F	↗ 1°F



Join us for the first special member and customer appreciation event of the season!  
Enjoy free admission and special giveaways.



FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 7 PM  
**DURANGO VS. MONTROSE**  
MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL

HOSTED BY  
**DMEA / ELEVATE**

**Save the Dates:**  
9/18 Pagosa Springs @ Delta  
9/25 North Fork @ Cedaredge  
10/16 Cedaredge @ Olathe

# THE LEGEND IS GROWING

## TRACK THE LOCAL TALES

We've heard the stories. Across Delta and Montrose counties, people have been asking questions. How does Elevate keep bringing fiber internet to more communities? How can service be so fast, reliable, AND offer local tech support? And what's with the reports of a large blue creature appearing shortly before internet service arrives in an area?

We can't explain every blurry photo, mysterious footprint, or late-night sighting. What we can tell you is that our team works hard every day to connect homes, businesses, and communities with legendary fiber internet. Still, as our network continues to grow, so do the theories. Coincidence? Maybe. But we're starting to understand why some folks think there might be something—or someone—helping us along the way.

**Confirm your sightings with proven internet.**

**Order service today!**

<b>ESSENTIAL</b> Browse and email; for everyday use.  <b>\$54.95/month</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Network protection</li><li>• 400 Mbps</li></ul>	<b>STREAMER</b> Stream, scroll, and share with ease.  <del>\$79.95/month</del> <b>\$54.95 for three months*</b>  Essential plan plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Device Prioritization</li><li>• 1 Gig (1,000 Mbps)</li></ul>	<b>Most Popular</b>  <b>FAMILY</b> Work, play, and everything between.  <b>\$99.95/month</b>  Streamer plan plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assisted parental control setup</li><li>• Wi-Fi extender</li><li>• 2 Gig (2,000 Mbps)</li></ul>	<b>LEGEND</b> Built for those who demand the best.  <b>\$149.95/month</b>  Family plan plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VIP installation including cable run</li><li>• 24/7 priority tech support</li><li>• 6 Gig (6,000 Mbps)</li></ul>
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Available in live fiber 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. Unlimited local & long distance applies to domestic long distance only. \*\$54.95 for 1 Gig offer is for the first three months of fiber service only. Internet speeds up to 6 Gig for fiber wired connections. All prices and offers are subject to change without notice. Taxes, fees, and terms of service apply.

# CONCERN *for* COMMUNITY *Cooperative Principle #7*



## Pickleball for All

The North Fork Pickleball Club (NFPC) is planning and developing eight dedicated pickleball courts and four dedicated tennis courts at the Delta County Fairgrounds. These courts will host clinics, tournaments, and serve new and experienced players in the area. The new tennis courts will also become the home courts for North Fork High School tennis team. The projected cost to build this community facility is estimated at \$1 million.



*A few of the regular North Fork Pickleball players.*

## How We Helped

DMEA's Capital Credit Community Fund contributed \$10,000 toward building new courts in Hotchkiss. These funds come from unclaimed capital credits.

*"We are so grateful to DMEA for being our 1st major sponsor! Their generous donation kicked off our fundraising campaign and sends a strong message that this project matters. Their investment is helping bring dedicated pickleball and tennis courts one step closer to becoming a reality for local residents of all ages."*

*-Kim Burke, President of NFPC*

## How You Can Help:

**Donate** to the project by visiting [nfpickle.com/donate](http://nfpickle.com/donate).

**Play** pickleball. The sport's popularity is rapidly growing across the country, promoting physical and social opportunities for young and older players.

**Attend** a clinic or find a court near you. Visit [nfpickle.com](http://nfpickle.com) for more information.



**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](http://dmea.com) |   

### Your Board of Directors:

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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](http://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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).



## A SENIOR'S GUIDE TO THE DIGITAL WORLD

### Intro to Streaming TV

Join the internet experts at Elevate to tap into the world of online TV. Learn about the differences between cable, live streaming, and on-demand TV, and figure out what's best for you. Refreshments are on us!

### Crawford Library

545 Highway 92

Thursday, August 6

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**SPACE IS LIMITED!**

### Cedaredge Library

180 SW 6th Ave

Thursday, September 10

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Participate to win fantastic prizes!

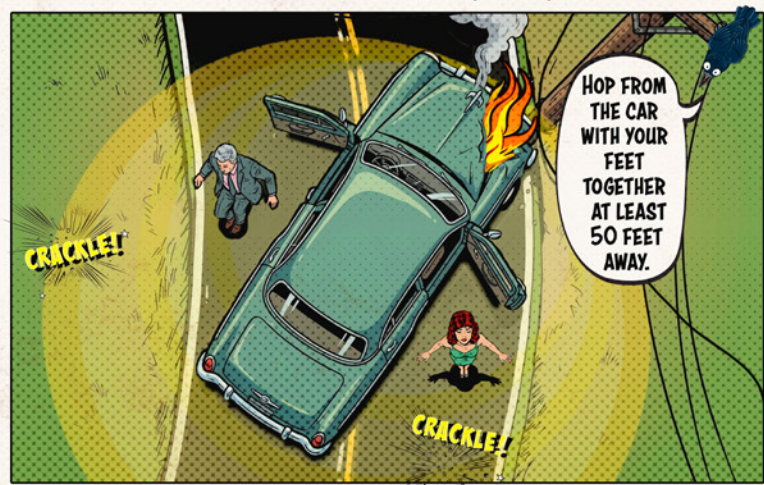
**REGISTER TODAY!**

[elevateinternet.com/101](http://elevateinternet.com/101)

or by calling 844-386-8744



ELECTRICITY SPREADS THROUGH THE GROUND FROM A DOWNED LINE LIKE RIPPLES IN A POND. ONE FOOT CAN BE STANDING IN A STRONGER ELECTRICAL FIELD THAN THE OTHER. ELECTRICITY MAY TRAVEL UP ONE LEG & DOWN THE OTHER THROUGH YOUR BODY. SO KEEP BOTH FEET TOGETHER. SHUFFLE, WADDLE, OR HOP!



**IN AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING A POWER LINE:**

**STAY INSIDE THE VEHICLE UNLESS IT IS UNSAFE.**

**CALL 911 TO REPORT DOWNED POWER LINES.**

**IF THE VEHICLE ISN'T SAFE:**

**DON'T TOUCH THE CAR AND GROUND AT THE SAME TIME. HOP, SHUFFLE, OR WADDLE WITH BOTH FEET TOGETHER 50 FEET AWAY FROM DOWNED LINE.**