

*Your monthly report from Your Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.*

*We appreciate the use of this photo taken by local students enrolled in the NM Tech GeoScience Program*

## ***Lightning From Recent Storms Causes Several Outages***

Summer thunderstorms are a familiar part of life in the southwest, bringing much-needed rain along with lightning and gusty winds. A single lightning strike can send a powerful surge through our power lines and electrical equipment.

Although our power delivery system is designed with protective devices that help minimize damage, direct lightning strikes can still affect transformers, power lines, poles, substations, and other equipment that deliver the electricity to your home or business.

In many cases, those protective devices do exactly what they're designed to do — automatically interrupt power to prevent more serious damage and protect both the electric system and the public. While these brief interruptions commonly referred to as "blinks" can be inconvenient, they often help reduce the size and duration of an outage.

If lightning has damaged equipment, repairs may require replacing transformers, poles, switches, or other components before power can be safely restored. During widespread storms, restoration can take longer as crews respond to multiple outages across our service area.

Locating the damaged equipment can prove to be an arduous task especially when the equipment is 30 feet off the ground and it is nighttime or during a driving rainstorm. We have included pictures here of the damaged equipment that caused some of the recent outages.

As a member-owned electric cooperative, our priority is restoring power safely and efficiently. We also encourage members to practice electrical safety during severe weather. Always stay away from downed power lines and anything they may be touching, and assume every line is energized

Your cooperative continually invests in maintaining and improving our electric system to strengthen reliability and better withstand severe weather. While no electric system can prevent every storm-related outage, these investments help reduce the impact of storms and allow our crews to restore power more quickly.

Thank you for your patience and understanding when severe weather affects electric service. We are proud to serve our member-owners and remain committed to providing safe, reliable electricity—rain or shine.



*Pinhole damage to UG takeoff*



*Damaged Pole Top Metering CT*

## SPOTLIGHT on TEAM SEC - Meet our Staff, Your Neighbor

Tim Ash relocated to Socorro in 2022 from New Orleans, Louisiana and has quickly become an engaged member of both the Socorro Electric Cooperative (SEC) team and the local community.

He attended the University of New Orleans and earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering with a specialization in autonomous robotics. Tim spent four years in the fiber optic telecommunications utility industry and 15 years as an executive chef in New Orleans' fine dining scene. He brings a unique blend of technical expertise, leadership, and creativity to SEC and Socorro.

Upon joining SEC in March 2026, Tim served as the Work Order Clerk in the Engineering Department for three months before accepting the position of Interim Director of Engineering in July.

Outside of work, he supports the Animal Protection Association of Socorro and volunteers at the local animal shelter; promoting animal welfare and community engagement throughout Socorro County.



Tim Ash  
Interim - Director  
of Engineering

### CONTACT US

#### WEBSITE

[www.socorroelectric.com](http://www.socorroelectric.com)

#### PHONE

800-351-7575 or 575-835-0560

#### PAYING YOUR BILL

Check out the SEC App!



Android



Apple

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### REPORTING AN OUTAGE

Before reporting a power outage, please check the circuit breakers in your house first. If you still do not have power after checking your breakers, please call

**575-835-0560, 800-351-7575 or  
855-881-8159.**

If you get a busy signal, it is an indication that someone else is experiencing an outage as well; however please continue to call, this will help us pinpoint the problem.

#### MEMBER SERVICES

Marilyn Madrid - Member Service Supervisor  
575-835-0560, Ext 1504

#### ACCOUNTING

Rauni Montoya, Chief Financial Officer  
575-835-0560, Ext 2502

#### LINE EXTENSIONS

Eng Dept 575-835-0560, Ext 2501 or 2503

#### MARKETING & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jimmy Capps - Director of Communications & Public Affairs - 575-835-0560, Ext 1503  
[jcapps@socorroelectric.com](mailto:jcapps@socorroelectric.com)

### SEC Foundation Supports Local Educational Experience

The SEC Foundation was proud to present a check in the amount of \$4,725 to NM Tech to provide scholarships for seven SEC students to attend the 2026 NM Tech STEM Experience.



Pictured above (L-R): Dr. Michael Jackson, President – NM Tech; Stephen Rosas, Trustee - SEC; Robert Alonzo, Trustee - SEC; Jacob Carillo, Scholarship recipient – Socorro; Patrick Clingman, Director of Admission – NM Tech; Michael Voegerl, Advancement Associate Director – NM Tech; Jimmy Capps Director of Communications - SEC; Manny Gonzales, CEO - SEC.

### *July 22, 2026 Board Meeting Report...the Board*

- received a report from the SEC Foundation Committee who took action to donate to area 4-H Clubs as add-ons for the upcoming County Fairs.
- approved revision to Board Policy #115 - "Attendance at Regional, National, and Statewide Meetings".
- approved one Construction Line Extension Loan.

All board agendas, minutes, and videos can be found on our website at:  
**[www.socorroelectric.com/board/resources](http://www.socorroelectric.com/board/resources)**