

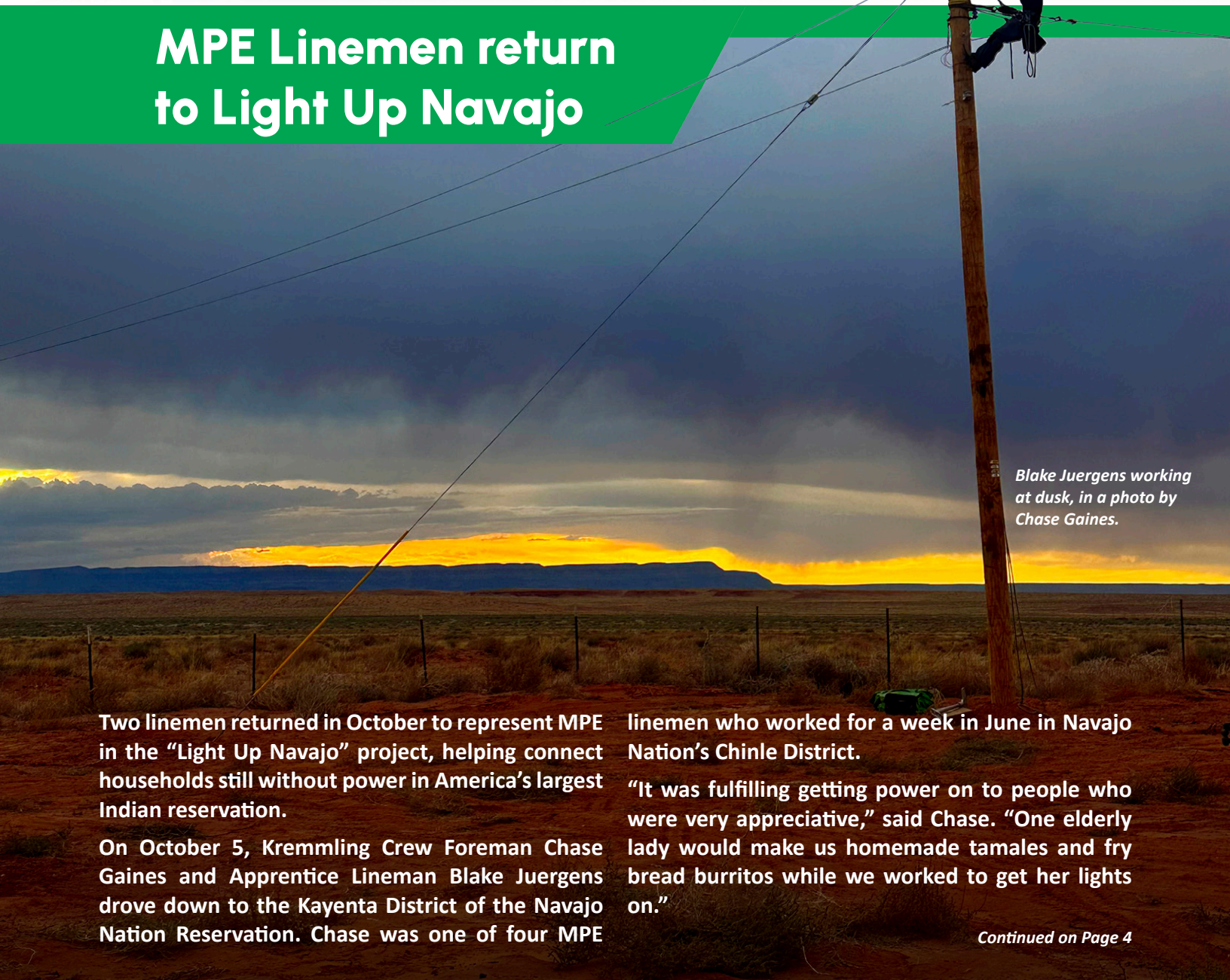
PLUGGED IN

MOUNTAIN PARKS ELECTRIC, INC.



MPE was the winner of the Golden Turkey for bringing the most food drive donations. More info on page 3.

MPE Linemen return to Light Up Navajo



Blake Juergens working at dusk, in a photo by Chase Gaines.

Two linemen returned in October to represent MPE in the “Light Up Navajo” project, helping connect households still without power in America’s largest Indian reservation.

On October 5, Kremmling Crew Foreman Chase Gaines and Apprentice Lineman Blake Juergens drove down to the Kayenta District of the Navajo Nation Reservation. Chase was one of four MPE

linemen who worked for a week in June in Navajo Nation’s Chinle District.

“It was fulfilling getting power on to people who were very appreciative,” said Chase. “One elderly lady would make us homemade tamales and fry bread burritos while we worked to get her lights on.”

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Board approves 2025 budget

Rates will increase to meet revenue requirements

At its November meeting, the Board of Directors approved the MPE 2025 budget, which includes a rate increase to take effect on Feb. 1, 2025.

A cost-of-service study and proposed rate design were recently completed for our cooperative by industry experts at PSE, an independent organization that serves utilities across North America. The objective of the rate design was to ensure that rates are fair, equitable, and financially adequate, while reflecting cost causation, promoting efficient energy use, and remaining competitive with similar co-ops. The rate design also aimed to recover revenue to meet MPE's operational needs as a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative.

MPECFO/Manager of Finance Emily Meek reported to the Board that MPE is in a strong financial position leading into the power supply transition that begins on Feb. 1, 2025. Yet, as projected, temporary declines in MPE's financial ratios are anticipated moving forward. These declines are primarily attributed to the contract termination payment owed to Tri-State G&T as MPE exits that

agreement. While MPE expected these declines and the related rate increases, the focus has been on the longer-term benefits to MPE membership, including rate stability. Find out more at www.MPEI.com/POWER-TRANSITION.

The upcoming rate increase is only the second for MPE in 9 years. It will be divided between the service availability and energy charges. The average residential electric bill will increase by approximately \$11.77 monthly. However, individual rate classes will be impacted differently. In aggregate, total rate increases amongst rate classes will result in an overall required 10.4% increase in revenue.

For residential members (General Service Small), the service availability fee will go from \$33.22 to \$38.32/month. MPE's fee remains competitive with the current 2024 fees of other Colorado co-ops with similar mountainous terrain, such as Yampa Valley Electric at \$45 and Gunnison County Electric at \$38 (2025 fees not yet available). The kilowatt-hour charge will change in February from \$0.11737/kWh to \$0.12690/kWh.



Benefiting Our Own in our Service Territory

Rate discount program established for those who may be disproportionately impacted by any rate changes.

The MPE Board also approved an income-qualified financial assistance pilot program – BOOST (Benefiting Our Own in our Service Territory) – will take effect on Feb. 1.

MPE is partnering with Mountain Family Center, which provides services throughout Grand and Jackson counties, to qualify members who may be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Eligible members will receive a 20% discount on their monthly bills. Eligible members who enroll in MPE's prepay program will get an additional 5% discount, for a total discount of 25% monthly.

The pilot will run through June 2026.

More information will be available soon at MPE and the Mountain Family Center.

QUICK MONTHLY SAVINGS

HEAT TAPE (200 ft unit)	
24 hours/day	\$152.28
8 hours/day	\$50.76
Difference	\$101.52

CLOTHES DRYER (1 hr. use)	
Daily use	\$19.04
5 days/week	\$12.69
Difference	\$6.35

SPACE HEATER (1500 watts)	
12 hrs./day	\$68.53
3 hrs./day	\$17.13
Difference	\$51.40



REBATE PROGRAM RE-VAMP IN 2025

MPE has revamped our rebate program offerings for 2025!

Do you have your eye on something offered in our 2024 program?

If so, we recommend you make your purchase now and submit your online application to us by Feb. 1, 2025.

Check out our 2025 offerings at www.MPEI.com/2025-REBATES.



MPE gets Golden Turkey for massive food drive

Although the true winner was the Mountain Family Center (MFC) and all the families MFC serves, MPE was proud to earn the Golden Turkey trophy by collecting a total of 11,875 items in the Thanksgiving Food Drive. This was MPE's first year in the friendly competition with Middle Park Health and Grand County administrative offices. Thanks to the MPE members/employees who contributed and to Guzman Energy for donating \$500 to the effort.



Supporting solar projects with positive community impact

MPE is requesting proposals for local solar photovoltaic and/or solar photovoltaic and battery energy storage systems (BESS) projects with an aggregate nameplate capacity not to exceed 500 kW. These will not be for residential solar, but rather through power purchase agreements (PPAs).

The priorities for this request for proposals (RFP) are to leverage MPE member-consumer grant awards for renewable energy projects and support projects with positive community impact, such as rate stabilization and community clean energy goals.

To see the RFP, visit our website at: www.MPEI.com/SOLAR-RFP1





Light Up Navajo continued

Chase and Blake were there for two weeks and worked on two large projects, with between 15-17 line extensions, and brought power to three homes. Their last couple of days on the project, they joined another crew to string over a mile of wire.

In addition to the philanthropic benefits of participating, MPE linemen are immersed in hands-on tasks. This helps apprentices get condensed experiences and seasoned linemen, like Chase, continue to perfect their skills in what is statistically one of the most dangerous careers.

Chase said that the opportunity to work in Arizona and Utah near Monument Valley and Lake Powell was very memorable. They were given a weekend off to explore the area and enjoy the “awesome scenery.”

Light Up Navajo is an initiative of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority in coordination with the American Public Power Association to help the more than 13,000 families living in the Navajo Nation that do not have basic access to electricity at home. MPE and other Colorado co-ops’ participation in the project is supported by the Colorado Rural Electric Association.



CHASE GAINES
CREW FOREMAN –
KREMMLING



BLAKE JUERGENS
APPRENTICE LINEMAN



WAYS TO \$AVE

LINDSAY McCANN
MEMBER SERVICE SPECIALIST

ENERGY \$AVING holiday curb appeal can include wreaths, lawn decorations and snowmen.

Festive indoor decor – nutcrackers, strings of popcorn, and garland – brighten up a room.

Battery operated candles provide ambiance while saving on the cost of lights...and they’re safe!

Happy Holidays!

