

UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 24-25, 2025	Christmas Holiday Offices Closed
Dec. 31 & Jan. 1	New Year's Holiday Offices Closed
Jan. 23, 2026	Youth Leadership Trips Application Deadline
April 15, 2026	Annual Meeting & Director Election

United Power Board

Approves 2026 Rate Increase

Impact to Each Rate Class Varies Based on Cost to Serve

At the cooperative's Oct. 28 Regulatory Meeting, the United Power Board of Directors approved increases to the cooperative's rates, including adjustments to both the demand and fixed charges. The new rate structure, effective Jan. 1, 2026, is based on the results of a comprehensive cost of service study, which calculates the cost to provide power to each rate class.

The cost of service study determined that while rates needed to increase to adequately recover the costs to serve each class, the current time of use on-peak window should be shortened from 2-10 p.m. to 5-9 p.m. In 2026, members enrolled in any of the time of use rates will have four additional hours of low-cost, off-peak power.

United Power has worked hard to keep rate increases to a minimum. **Since 2020, members have only had one year of rate increases, with members seeing no increase in 2025.** However, the cost of nearly everything the cooperative needs to build and maintain its system continues to rise. Essential components like transformers and poles; the cost to outfit and support co-op crews with trucks, tools, fuel, and equipment; and the added pressures from growing transportation expenses and tariffs bring additional layers of uncertainty to the financial planning for the operation.

Cost increases that nearly every home and business have experienced in the past year, like insurance and property taxes, are also impacting the cooperative. Additionally, compliance with industry and legislative requirements is also adding to the cost of doing business. Changing the mix of generation resources, which is tied to Colorado's Clean Energy Plan, is an example of a state mandate that is adding to these growing costs to safely deliver reliable service.

As a cooperative, United Power does not answer to shareholders and every dollar

collected goes back to securing reliable power and maintaining and improving the local electric system. While the costs of utility materials and equipment as well as insurance and taxes continue to rise, United Power has experienced substantial growth across its service area. This pace of growth combined with increasing costs and supply chain shortages faced by utilities across the country is particularly challenging.

Rate increases are not ideal, but it is vital that the cooperative remain fiscally sound. As a member-owned electric cooperative, it is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to set rates at a level that covers all the growing costs of the co-op. This increase will do just that, and help United Power continue to balance reliability and economical rates.

What does this mean for my electric bill?

Most members on residential rates will see average monthly increases of \$16-25, or 11.44%, with some members seeing higher or lower increases depending on their power use and consumption. This estimate includes an increase in the fixed charge of \$3 per month,



www.unitedpower.com

Report an Outage 303-637-1350
Member Services 303-637-1300

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Along These Lines

A Message from United Power's President & CEO



Mark A. Gabriel
President & Chief Executive Officer

Have Feedback For Us?

Submit your questions, comments, concerns, or general feedback at www.unitedpower.com/CEO.

Our Cooperative Roadmap

Our Cooperative Roadmap contains the cooperative's long-term action plan and key priorities to maintain its strength and competitiveness in the evolving electric industry.

Read Our Cooperative Roadmap at www.unitedpower.com/roadmap.

No one likes rate increases. Full stop.

By the same token, maintaining a financially healthy cooperative is a critical part of United Power's mission. Our staff – and your Board of Directors – work diligently to make sure rates are matched closely with the utility's operating costs. It is those growing costs that require the Jan. 1 rate increase.

The supply chain for many products, including those we use at the cooperative, have still not recovered from the pandemic, even before tariffs began impacting costs. Power poles are up 25-40% since 2020, transformers have doubled in price, copper wire is up 50%, and construction labor has increased by nearly 40%. Uncertainty in power generation, and which resources will be in favor from one administration to the next, is making generators and power providers hesitant to commit to long-term pricing. And, to further complicate the issue, more large power generating stations are coming offline, forcing capacity prices upward. It is more difficult for companies to commit to pricing when tariffs are in flux and off-shore/near-shore manufacturers that make many of the products utilities use are not sure if they will be able to sell products in the U.S.

United Power has worked to build a portfolio of hyper-localized projects to manage our wholesale power costs, believing that is the most logical and efficient solution in an uncertain financial environment. We have one of the largest distributed battery systems in the nation and recently opened the newest, most efficient gas plant in the country. We continue to contract for low-cost solar energy. In October, we committed to an additional 200 megawatts of solar coupled with 150 megawatts of battery storage, and we look forward to a power market coming to Colorado in April.

We are also committed to helping our members better manage their usage and bills through a variety of programs. We have dramatically reduced our peak energy hours,

the time of day when our wholesale energy costs are at their highest, allowing members to shift demand and save on bills. The peak window has shortened from 2-10 p.m. to 5-9 p.m., a more rational window that makes it easier for members to navigate. Rates before and after the new peak are approximately 6.7 cents. An analysis of 2024 aggregated usage data shows that many residential and commercial members could benefit by moving to a time of use rate. Detailed information about all 2026 rates can be found at www.unitedpower.com/rate-change. Members can also reach out to an energy management specialist for help analyzing their energy usage and selecting the best rate to save on costs. Additionally, tools to help improve your energy efficiency are available on the United Power website at www.unitedpower.com/my-energy.

The story is the same across Colorado and the rest of the country. Virtually every utility (electric, gas, and water) is facing the challenge of holding down costs as long as possible. United Power has only had one year of rate increases (2024) during my nearly five years as CEO. The Board intentionally held back on raising rates during COVID, understanding the impact on an already challenged local economy. We do not take the matter of raising rates lightly, and we commit to managing your investments well.

As your cooperative and a key member of the communities we serve, United Power works every day to keep the lights on and power flowing in the most reliable and cost competitive way possible. We realize even small increases are challenging for many of our members and stand ready to help people manage their energy wisely.

As always, please feel free to reach out with any comments or questions. It is my honor to serve as your President and CEO and to lead this team of amazing people.

Rate Change Approved for 2026 Usage

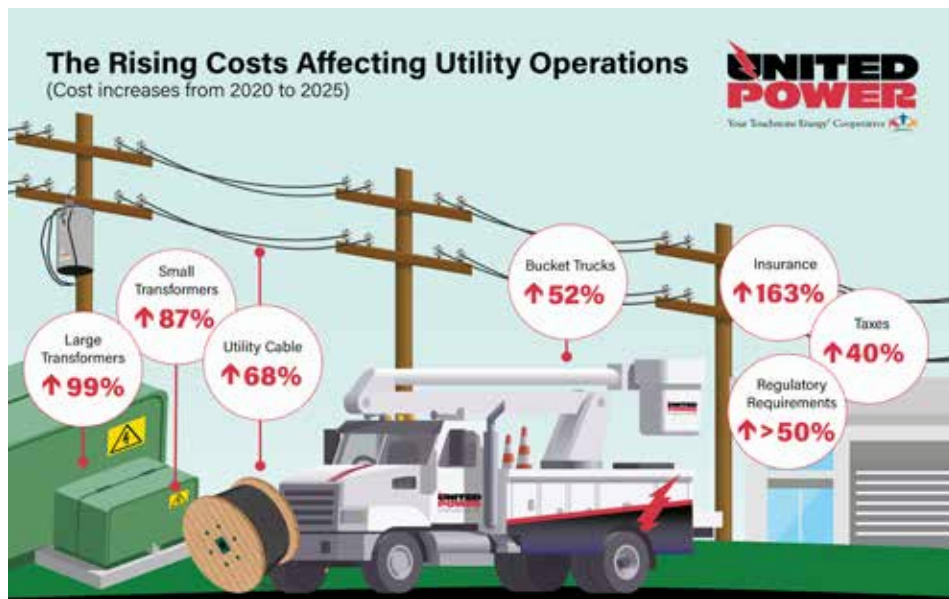
bringing the monthly fixed charge to \$22. Likewise, the demand charge will increase from \$4 to \$4.55 per kW.

Although members will see an increase in their energy charges, those on the time of use rate will benefit from fewer on-peak energy hours as the window shrinks from 2-10 p.m. to 5-9 p.m. This change will give members more off-peak hours to control household energy costs through changes in when electricity is used.

United Power remains committed to delivering safe, efficient, and reliable service at equitable rates for members. Members

who may need assistance managing their monthly bills are encouraged to contact United Power's member services team. The cooperative offers a variety of rate options to help members maximize every energy dollar, and there are several billing programs available to help members manage their monthly budgets.

Learn more about this rate change, what is driving cost increases, and the rate and billing options available for members at www.unitedpower.com/rate-change.



Annual Director Election

Four Board Seats Up for Election

Four positions on United Power's eleven-member Board are up for election at the 2026 Annual Meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2026. The meeting will be hosted at the Riverdale Regional Park and broadcast live for members who are unable to attend in person. One seat in the North, South, Central, and Mountain districts will be up for four-year terms.

Eligible members interested in running for a seat on the Board must submit a director candidate application and petition via the online application portal. Petitions must state the name and district of the candidate, and must be signed by 15 or more United Power members. Candidates are also asked to provide a biographical information statement and a photo.

Candidate Election Portal



SCAN HERE

The portal is now open.

The deadline for director candidate applications and petitions is noon on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026.

2026 ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR ELECTION

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 15, 2026**

The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held as a hybrid event. Members may view the meeting online or attend in person.

MEETING LIVESTREAM

www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting

IN-PERSON MEETING

Riverdale Regional Park & Fairgrounds
9755 Henderson Road, Brighton, CO 80601

4:30 p.m. In-person Registration, Balloting, & Dinner

6:30 p.m. Online & In-person Meeting Begins

BALLOTING DEADLINES

Voting in the 2026 Director Election will be conducted by both electronic and paper balloting.

JAN. 5, 2026

Director candidate applications and petitions due by 12 noon.

MARCH 13, 2026

Electronic balloting opens and paper ballots are mailed to members.

APRIL 14, 2026

Mail-in ballots must arrive by 11:59 a.m.
Electronic balloting closes at 11:59 a.m.

APRIL 15, 2026

Registration and in-person voting open at the Annual Meeting from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

VOTE PAPERLESS

DEADLINE: FEB. 6, 2026

All United Power members receive a Director Election ballot in the mail by default. If you do not wish to receive a mail ballot, you can indicate this preference online at www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting.

All members will have the option to vote in the Director Election through their online account portal, even if they do not receive a paper ballot.



Decking the Halls Safely

The holiday season is quickly approaching, and with it, the time to put up festive lights, both indoors and outdoors.

According to Electrical Safety Foundation (ESFI), nearly 90% of Americans decorate their homes as part of winter holidays. While holiday lighting does contribute to the joy, appeal, and splendor of the season, using them without following important safety precautions can increase the risk of fires and electrical injuries.

ESFI recommends the following holiday safety steps to ensure you and your family are able to enjoy the season comfortably and worry-free:

- The best decorations are safe decorations, so when you are decorating, make sure not to run cords under rugs or furniture.
- Always turn off your decorations when you leave your home and when you are sleeping.
- Do not overload outlets or extension cords. If you are using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home.
- Only use electronics in dry areas. As tempting as it is, you should not decorate your aquarium with icicle lights.
- Every home needs a working smoke alarm in each bedroom, outside sleeping areas, and on every level, including the basement.
- Inspect your decorations and discard any that are damaged or worn out. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, loose connections, or frayed or bare wires. Plug light strings together as you inspect them but before hanging.
- ESFI recommends buying your family arc-fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) breakers or outlets. Many electrical fires that occur every year could be prevented by AFCIs.

READER REWARDS

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Three Winners Every Month!

1st place: \$100 Bill Credit

2nd place: \$50 Bill Credit (two winners)

Submit Reader Rewards Online

www.unitedpower.com



Visit www.unitedpower.com and click on 'News & Community' to enter Reader Rewards online. Answer the question below with your online entry:

When is the Youth Trips application deadline?

By submitting this entry, I agree to allow United Power to publish my name in subsequent issues of United Newsline if I am selected as a winner. For complete contest rules, visit www.unitedpower.com/newsline.

Members may also enter by mailing the following entry form to:
United Power - Reader Rewards
500 Cooperative Way - Brighton, CO 80603

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

UNITED POWER PRIDE



Jonathan Wu, Broomfield, enjoying one of the famous Christmas markets in Munich, Germany. Cooperatives have been proudly serving German citizens since the 1840s.

United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the United Newsline and you'll receive a \$100 bill credit if we print it. Submit your photo along with your name, address, email, and a description of the photo online at www.unitedpower.com/unitedpowerpride.

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN THE RATE TARIFFS OF UNITED POWER, INC.

Issue 8

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Date of Notice: Nov. 7, 2025

United Power Inc.'s elected board of directors has approved changes to United Power's rate tariff schedules for energy usage, including increases to both demand and fixed charges, to become effective on or after Jan. 1, 2026, as described on each applicable rate tariff posted on www.unitedpower.com. Additionally, the on-peak window for residential and commercial time of use rates will change from the current window of 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. to a shorter window of 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. These adjustments are necessary for all rate classes due to increased wholesale power and transmission costs, increased costs due to tariffs and continued inflationary pressures on the supply chain, and to keep United Power in compliance with its indenture, note purchase agreements, and financial goals. There will also be a new rate class labeled Municipal Owned Lighting Service (MOL).

RATE CLASS	AVERAGE MONTHLY BILL INCREASE
Residential (R1)	11.44%
Residential Time of Use (RTD1)	12.92%
Residential Time of Use Demand (RDP1)	14.14%
Smart Choice Residential (RD1)	10.89%
Small Commercial (C1)	11.23%
Small Commercial Time of Use (CTD1)	13.29%
Irrigation (IRR2)	10.90%
Large Commercial (ISD1)	10.76%
Large Commercial Coincidental Peak (CPS1)	10.77%
Small Industrial (SIP1)	11.23%
Large Industrial (IPD1)	10.72%
Large Industrial Coincidental Peak (CPP1)	10.72%
Industrial (ITD1)	10.59%
Industrial (ITD2)	10.71%
Industrial (ITD3)	10.70%
Industrial (ITD4)	10.70%
Non-Meter Street Lighting Service	10.71%
Shared Street Light Service	10.71%
Municipal Owned Lighting Service (MOL)	N/A

The present and proposed tariff provisions are available for examination at the Coal Creek Branch Office, located at 5 Gross Dam Road, Golden, CO; the headquarters office located at 500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO; the Carbon Valley Branch Office at 9586 E. I-25 Frontage Road, Longmont, CO; and on the cooperative's website at www.unitedpower.com.

Anyone who desires to file either an informal complaint or a formal complaint with United Power must do so in writing as required by United Power's Rules and Regulations, accessible online at www.unitedpower.com/bylaws-rates-tariffs.

UNITED POWER, INC.

By: Mark A. Gabriel, President and Chief Executive Officer

RECIPES



Crispy Smashed Potatoes

4 lbs small red or Yukon gold potatoes
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1/4 cup sliced chives, parsley, or tarragon
Kosher salt
Fresh ground pepper

Cover potatoes with cold water in a large pot. Season heavily with salt. Boil until potatoes are tender, about 10 minutes. Drain and rest to cool for another 10 minutes.

Firmly smash potatoes with the bottom of a heavy skillet, one at a time until about 1/2 inch thick.

Heat oil in large non-stick or cast iron skillet over medium heat. Add as many potatoes as will fit in a single layer and cook until bottom is deeply brown, about 6 minutes. Carefully flip and cook until second side is golden brown, about 5 minutes. Repeat until all potatoes are cooked. Drain on paper towels.

When ready to serve, heat in a 400°F oven until heated through, about 6 minutes. Transfer to large bowl and season with salt, pepper, and herbs. Toss to distribute.

Source: *Serious Eats*

Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

ONLINE: www.unitedpower.com

MAIL: United Power Recipes
500 Cooperative Way
Brighton, CO 80603

Scholarship Opportunities

Now Accepting 2026 Applications



United Power proudly supports the educational goals of students served by the cooperative with its annual scholarship program.

Cooperative Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded each year to support the academic aspirations of local students. The cooperative will award more than \$35,000 in post-secondary and vocational scholarships.

Eligibility varies for each scholarship, but awards are generally granted to students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, and community involvement.



Scan the QR with your mobile device to apply for 2026 Cooperative Scholarships.



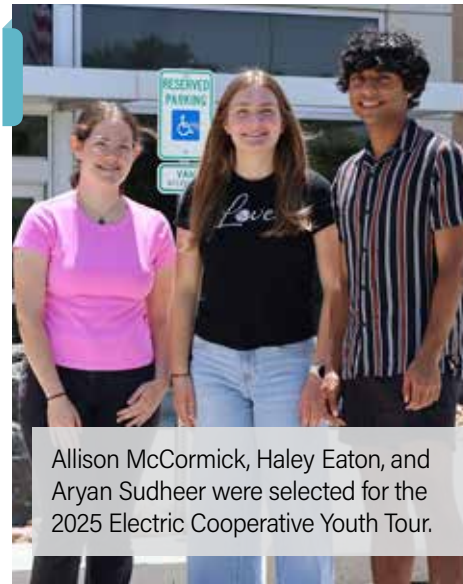
Application Deadline:
March 6, 2026

Additional information about United Power scholarship opportunities, including qualifications and applications is available at www.unitedpower.com/scholarships.



Youth Leadership Trips

United Power annually celebrates the accomplishments of students in its service territory and contributes to the development of standout student leaders at the Youth Leadership Camp and Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. The cooperative selects three students to go on an all-expenses-paid trip to the nation's capital and three students to spend a week in the Colorado mountains learning leadership skills to model in their schools and communities.



Allison McCormick, Haley Eaton, and Aryan Sudheer were selected for the 2025 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Cooperative Youth Tour June 15-21, 2026 | Washington, D.C.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has been a proud tradition among co-ops since 1957 when Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, speaking at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's annual meeting, suggested sending youth to the nation's capital to see "what the flag stands for and represents."

Students explore Washington, D.C. with peers from across the country and learn about American history and the cooperative business model while developing leadership skills. Each day is packed with memorable moments.



Keelyn Eller, Stephanie Schmidt, and Cassandra DeClaw were selected for the 2025 Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

Youth Leadership Camp July 11-16, 2026 | Steamboat Springs

The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp is not a traditional camp. Students spend a week near Steamboat Springs establishing and managing their own cooperative, including holding a director election, to learn the value of cooperative principles.

Days are filled with cooperative focused activities, leadership training seminars, and collaborative group projects. Campers also enjoy fun activities like rafting down the Colorado River, exploring Fish Creek Falls, and an end-of-week celebration.

Holiday Energy Efficiency

We spend all year thinking about ways to effectively monitor and reduce our energy usage, but that becomes more difficult during the holidays. We are often distracted with decorations and preparations, shopping, cooking, and planning. It can be easy to let your guard down, resulting in more energy usage than you might otherwise expect.

However you choose to celebrate this season, United Power has you covered with the most up-to-date energy efficiency tips and tricks to prevent holiday usage spikes. A little forethought and diligence makes it easy to find savings during this time of year.

Replace Christmas Lights with LEDs

Updating the lighting in your home is one of the quickest and easiest ways to reduce your energy usage and costs. Light-emitting diodes — or LEDs — are a well-known alternative to traditional lighting and are quickly becoming standard. While many people are making the switch to these lights in their homes, they still might reach for the older, less efficient string lights they have always used when decorating for the holidays.

Depending on how festive your holiday display is, the cost of using these lights can really begin to add up — perhaps to the tune of hundreds of dollars. However, Christmas lights that utilize LEDs are up to 90% more efficient and have a far longer life than other lighting options.

Beware the Holiday Vampires

United Power regularly talks about vampire loads, which are small loads in many homes that can add up over time. Vampire loads come from devices that continue to use energy even when they appear to be off, such as TVs, gaming consoles, and charging devices. Holiday lights can also contribute to these loads when they stay plugged in throughout the day while not in use. Unplug lights during the day or before bed in the evening to avoid additional energy usage, or you can plug them into a power strip that can be turned off when not in use.

Give the Gift of Energy Savings

Electronics have become a more common gift item over the past few years, many of which have the capability of using large quantities of energy. “Green gifting” is the practice of gifting electronics that are certified energy efficient, such as those marked by the ENERGY STAR® label. These devices meet or exceed federal standards for energy efficiency. This allows you to pass on the gift of energy savings to friends and family.

For more energy efficiency tips to help you save on usage throughout the year, visit www.unitedpower.com/energy-savings.

Make Payments Easy with Auto Pay

United Power members can take the stress out of paying their monthly billing statement with the cooperative's free payment option, Auto Pay. When you sign up for Auto Pay, United Power will deduct your payment on your regular due date. Members may designate a bank account or credit card to be charged.

Benefits of Auto Pay

- **Convenience.** Auto Pay is an ideal program for members who travel frequently or want the peace of mind knowing their bills are paid on time each month.
- **Security.** Automatic payments are transmitted electronically and securely. No more worrying about mailing checks or carrying cash payments.

- **Save Money.** Ensuring your payments are made on time and for the correct amount each month means you do not have to worry about late fees.
- **Stay Informed.** You will receive notice that your Auto Pay payment has been made so you can focus on more important things.

United Power offers a variety of convenient payment and billing options for members. Visit www.unitedpower.com/payments to sign up for Auto Pay and review other options available to you.

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Scholarship Deadline

Scholarship applications are now open and due by March 6, 2026.

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Youth Leadership Trips

Students in local high schools can hone their leadership skills on summer trips.

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United Power Board Approves Rate Increase for 2026

The Board approved a rate increase due to increased wholesale power and transmission costs, as well as increased costs due to tariffs and continued pressures on the supply chain. New rates take effect for usage beginning Jan. 1, 2026.

For more information, go to www.unitedpower.com/rate-change.

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR CO-OP

- www.unitedpower.com
- [/united-power-inc](https://www.linkedin.com/company/united-power-inc)
- [/unitedpower](https://www.facebook.com/unitedpower)
- [/unitedpowercoop](https://www.instagram.com/unitedpowercoop)
- [/unitedpowercoop](https://twitter.com/unitedpowercoop)
- [/unitedpowercoop](https://www.youtube.com/unitedpowercoop)

CONTACT YOUR CO-OP

Member Services303-637-1300
Outage Line303-637-1350

CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

- 1st Place:** Kathryn Sevier, Thornton
2nd Place: Nicholas Handley, Commerce City
David Jackson, Fort Lupton

See your name? Call 303-637-1325 within two (2) months of the issue date to claim your Reader Rewards.

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Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

UNITED NEWSLINE

500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO 80603

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

