



NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

FROM THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR VALERIE ESPINOZA (DISTRICT 3)

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Regulation Commission Suspends Tri-State Rate Increase *Decision saves millions for northern New Mexico cooperative members*

SANTA FE, N.M. — Last month, the Public Regulation Commission (PRC or Commission) voted to suspend new rates proposed by Colorado-based power wholesaler Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association.

The requested increase would have been passed on to ratepayers who receive service from Tri-State member cooperatives, including the Northern Rio Arriba Electric Cooperative, Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative and the Mora San Miguel Electric Cooperative.

According to the PRC's Utilities Division, the Commission's decision to suspend the rate increase saves Tri-State's New Mexico cooperatives a combined \$1 million extra per month.

On Jan. 8, the PRC passed a separate order granting Tri-State's motion for rehearing on the rate increase suspension, mainly to ensure that a 20-day statutory deadline for responses to the motion were met. The order also specified that the PRC's decision was not granted on the motion's merits.

The Commission's order also called for oral argument to be held on the matter Jan. 29.

"The PRC will examine the case thoroughly to find the most just and reasonable solution possible," said PRC Vice-Chair Valerie Espinoza (District 3).

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