

REFORM ARCHIVES

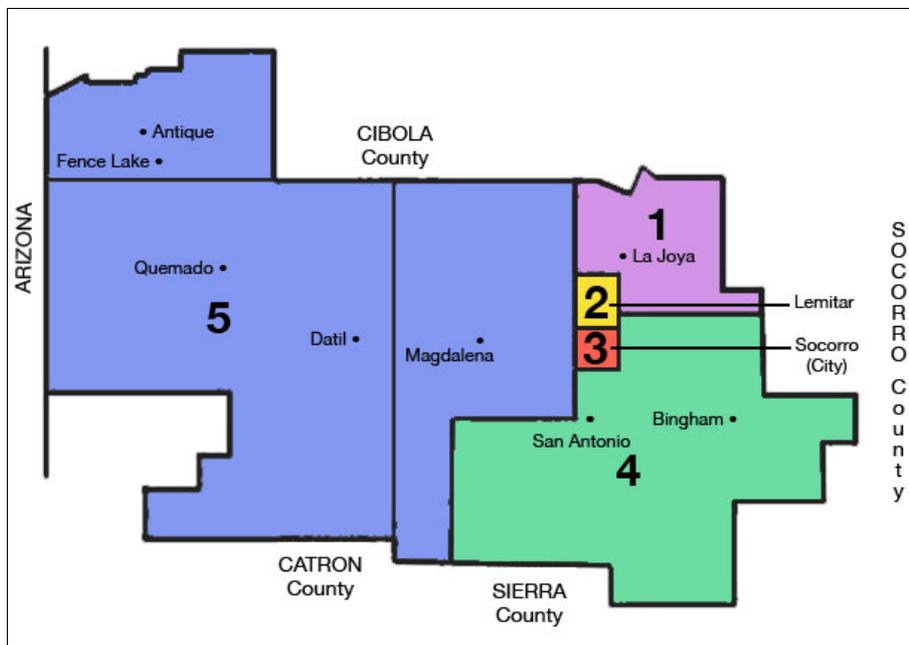
THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ORIGINAL REDISTRICTING DOCUMENTS

[Original 2010 Propositions](#)
[Original 2010 Issues](#)

The Socorro Electric Co-operative covers about 11,500 square miles and includes Socorro, northern Catron and portions of Valencia and Sierra Counties in New Mexico.

The information below is what the districts looked like prior to the members passing the proposition to re-district in April, 2010

The SEC Board has a committee to address the member approved redistricting. ... BUT.....? should they be doing it or choosing an agency to do it.



District One	District Two	District Three	District Four	District Five
703 square miles	120 square miles	90 square miles	2316 square miles	8,319 square miles
1,487 members representing 15% of member population	696 members representing 7% of the member population	4,049 members representing 42% of member population	639 members representing 7% of the member population	2,679 members representing 28% of the member population
Leo Cordova (1,487 members)	Paul Bustamante (696 members)	Six Trustees / 55% of board votes Leroy Anaya (675 members) Manuel Marquez (675 members) Don Wolberg (675 members) Luis Aguilar (675 members) Milton Ulibarri (675 members) Prescilla Mauldin (675 members)	David Wade (639 members)	Two Trustees Ttee Charlie Wagner (1,340 members) Jack Bruton (1,340 members)

Over the past fifteen years the demographics of the cooperative have shifted.

Since 1993 District 3's population majority has been continually dropping and it no longer holds the population majority **as of the 2006 board elections.**

District 3 held 42% of the population although District 3 continues to hold a 55% majority of board votes which has become inequitable.

This is an important bylaw. The majority of Trustees have stalled its enforcement for a year and will take no action until after the 2008 elections.

**Rural Electrification Administration
1936
Now Rural Utility Service**

- Co-op is Different than Investor Owned Utility (IOU)
- Member Owned and Operated
- Not For Profit / Income tax exempt*
- Democratically Controlled by Members: Co-op Territory Divided into **equal representative districts** for election of Trustees (directors) and the convenience of the members (cooperative)
- Co-op must Allocate Capital Credits to Member's account and pay them based on System's financial condition at Boards direction.
- Co-op is Transparent.

* must be in compliance w/IRS 501(c)(12)

By-Laws: Article V; Section 8.

Division into Districts

For the purpose of **assuring equitable representation** on the Board as well as for the convenience of the cooperative, the area served by the cooperative is divided into districts. Hereafter, whenever deemed proper and necessary by the Board of Trustees or at the proper time, **the Board of Trustees shall appoint a District Survey Committee**, of not less than three or more than five for the purpose of surveying, considering and weighing a method of justification for the **creation of or changing of Districts**. Upon completion of such survey a report will be made to the Board of Trustees; which report will be acted on by the Board of Trustees; but in no event shall said report become official until ratified by the members at and during the annual meeting.

The first row of the chart below shows member population at election time in 1992. The second row shows the percent that the member population of each district bears to the total member population of the Co-op. The pattern continues with each election year, 1996, 2000, and 2004. The year 2008 is as of April 26, the Annual Members Meeting and is for comparison purposes only. The last row shows the annual average growth rate for each district for the period of years covered by the analysis. The Total column shows the co-op's member population each election year, except for 2008.

That year's population figures were as of 4/26/08. There are 11 Trustee positions on the board. Districts 1, 2 and 4 have one Trustee each. District 5 has 2 Trustees and District 3 has 6 Trustee positions. District 3 has the majority of Board votes (55%) but only represents 42% of the Coop population (4,049) compared to the other districts with 58% of the population (5,501). The trustees with lower than average member populations continue to resist the bylaws mandatory language "to assure equitable representation on the board" knowing that redistricting will restore "majority rule"

Election Year	District One	District Two	District Three	District Four	District Five	Total
1992	790	510	3470	485	1430	6685
%	12%	8%	52%	7%	21%	100%
1996	1064	616	3805	612*	1762	7859
%	14%	8%	48%	8%	22%	100%
2000	1633	815	3880	739	2501	9568
%	17%	9%	41%	8%	26%	101%
2004	1633	672	3893	629	2475	9302
%	18%	7%	42%	7%	27%	101%
2008**	1487	696	4049	639	2679	9550
%	15%	7%	42%	7%	28%	99%
Avg. An. Gr. Rate	5.68%	2.3%	1%	1.8%	5.60%	15 yrs.

It is obvious that the districts do not equitably represent the members as the bylaws require. In addition Socorro, which until 1992, as far as I know may have had 51% or more of SEC's member population now represents only 42%. Districts One and 5 have grown at more than 5% per year over the past 15 years while Socorro's membership has grown at only 1% per year over the same period. Now due to the growth of other districts Socorro's membership is 4,049 compared to districts 1 and 5 with 4,166. Socorro has 6 Trustees to only 3 Trustees for districts 1 and 5. That can't be justified, and is why the Board's majority has resisted obeying the bylaws for so many years and continues even today failing to perform their duty in the best interest of the Cooperative

How Equitable and Representative are the districts of your co-op ?

District Community	Number of Members	Number of Trustees	Members per Trustee	District Size Square miles	Member net addition- '92
One Veguita	1487	1	1,484	703	697
Two Lemitar	696	1	696	120	186
Three Socorro	4,049	6	675	90	579
Four San Ant	639	1	639	2,316	154
Five West-AZ	2,679	2	1,340	8,319	1,249
TotalCoop	9,550	11	868 avg.	11,548	2,865

Note: The "re-districting committee" was created May 13, 2008 in response to the petition circulated by members in late April 2008. The purpose of the committee is to circumvent Article V section 8 of the bylaws. The re-districting committee hopes to perpetually consider re-districting and never take action. It is not to be confused with the "Survey Committee" which is part of the mandatory procedure described in the bylaws, of which the majority of the board is in contempt and has been for years.

Red = Socorro Trustee

District Three (Socorro) Trustees have the majority vote on all committees except two. They act in concert to dominate the decision process. Each year that Charlie Wagner has been on the Board, The Socorro Six has elected Paul Bustamante, President of the Board. The President in turn appoints committees of five committeemen, making sure that at least three (the majority) are Socorro Trustees. So the "stacked" committees can dispose of an issue and recommend an action to the whole Board that only needs one more vote. There is by design another Socorro Trustee to make sure the desired result is achieved. By insisting that majority rule applies to committee actions, the committee chairman's report is unanimous. The affect is to silence and decommission the other four Trustees. Under these conditions it is easier to go along with the majority, collect your fees and run for reelection.

Why have 11 Trustees? At 2007 average trustee cost, the Co-op can save about \$200,000 by having only seven Trustees

2006 through 2008 Committees		
<u>Safety Committee</u> Harold Baca Manuel Marquez	<u>NMRECA Representative</u> Manuel Marquez <u>Tri State Representative</u> Juan Gonzales	<u>Legislative Committee</u> Juan Gonzales Paul Bustamante
<u>Wage Committee</u> Manuel Marquez, Chairman Milton Ulbarri Leroy Anaya Leo Cordova Jack Bruton	<u>Bid Committee</u> Juan Gonzales, Chairman Herman Romero Milton Ulbarri Leroy Anaya Leo Cordova	<u>Policy Committee</u> Juan Gonzales, Chairman Herman Romero Manuel Marquez Dave Wade Charles Wagner
<u>Marketing Committee</u> Jack Bruton, Chairman Dave Wade Harold Baca Charlie Wagner Leo Cordova	<u>Annual Meeting Committee</u> Manuel Marquez, Chairman Leroy Anaya Dave Wade Charlie Wagner Milton Ulbarri	<u>By-Law Committee</u> Leo Cordova, Chairman Jack Bruton Manuel Marquez Juan Gonzales Herman Romero
<u>Re-Districting Committee</u> Juan Gonzales, Chairman Leo Cordova Dave Wade Jack Bruton Milton Ulbarri	<u>Awards and Recognition Committee</u> Leo Cordova, Chairman Milton Ulbarri, Herman Romero, Dave Wade and Charlie Wagner	<u>Executive Committee</u> Paul Bustamante, Pres. Leo Cordova, VP Leroy Anaya, Sec. Milton Ulbarri, Treas.

The member petition currently being circulated to members of SEC reduces district Three (Socorro) from six representatives (Trustees) to 3. Three positions are up for election in 2008; three in 2009.

Consolidating Districts Two (Lemitar-Polvidera) and Four (San Antonio-Bingham) eliminates one trustee position. Both positions are scheduled for election in 2008.

With seven Trustees each represents a like number of members, as close as possible using the same traditional boundaries and simple mathematics at no cost to the members.

The big payoff to consumer members in reducing the board from 11 to 7 is that approximately \$200,000 per year will be saved in Trustee expenses.

Considering that each trustee costs the co-op members approximately \$50,000 per year

After Member Petition Succeeds

District	Members	Trustees (Representatives)	Members Represented
One	1,487	1 2008 Election	1,487
Con. Dist. 2/4	1,335	1 2008 Election	1,335
Three	4,049	1 2009 Election	1,350
		1 2009 Election	1,350
		1 2009 Election	1,350
Five	2,679	1 2008 Election	1,340
		1 2009 Election	1,340
Total	9,550	Total Trustees 7	9,550

Representative Districts Today

District	Members	Trustees (Representatives)	Number of Members Represented
One (Vaguita)	1,487	Leo Cordova	1,487
Two (Limitar)	696	Paul Bustamante	696
Three (Socorro)	4,049	Leroy Anaya	675
		Harold Baca	675
		Juan Gonzales	675
		Manual Marquez	675
		Herman Romero	675
Four (San Antonio)	639	Milton Uliberri	675
		Dave Wade	639
Five (Magda. to AZ)	2,679	Jack Bruton	1,340
		Charlie Wagner	1,340