



District 1 Candidate

Douglas Sparks

Thirty-one years ago, I, Doug Sparks, moved to the Cortez area with my family and began my career working for Empire Electric. Shortly after graduation from the Oregon Institute of Technology in 1980, I started my career as a Civil Engineer participating in the design and building of many Distribution and Transmission systems. This took me to several major projects throughout the Western United States, some of which took me to the Cortez area, well before I would eventually move here permanently.

In 1993 I moved my growing family down to Cortez, taking a position as a Staking Engineer and later moving into the Member Services Manager position. As an Engineer I communicated with members about their electrical service needs. In 2000, the promotion to Manager offered me more opportunities to apply a greater variety of my abilities. Through this position I helped with the initiation of the net metering program, worked to implement the original Refrigerator Recycling Program, and helped with rate design. Here I served as the public face for Empire Electric throughout the community including serving on the board of directors for Montezuma Water Company.

I am a firm believer in the cooperative way of delivering electric services to the members safely and at reasonable rates. My goal, as candidate for Director in District 1, is to assist with the prudent stewardship of this organization in any manner needed. I believe my knowledge base in all aspects of the electric utility industry will be a valuable asset.