



ARKANSAS RIVER POWER AUTHORITY | eNews  
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## ARPA Corrects Mis-information in Trinidad Press

There was a recent news article in the Trinidad Chronicle that contained a series of erroneous statements resulting from a miscommunication between the Chronicle Reporter and the City of Trinidad. We believe it is in the best interest of utility customers in our member cities to clarify this misinformation.

The contract for power supply that was the main thrust of the article was not between Trinidad and Tri-State, but is currently in negotiations between the Arkansas River Power Authority ("ARPA") and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association. The details of the contract remain confidential as the agreement has not been finalized but several statements regarding the contract in the Chronicle article are inaccurate. However, we would expect the new contract to help stabilize electric rates for ARPA's member municipalities, including Trinidad.

The article included many other inaccuracies. For example, the wholesale cost of power to Trinidad has never been sixteen cents per kilo-watt hour as stated in the article nor will the cost drop to as low as three cents per kilo-watt hour. Despite increasing transmission costs and an increased budget for legal fees, ARPA will not increase rates for its members for 2012.

We were very encouraged however to see that the contract negotiations appear to be supported by the Trinidad officials, including their ARPA board representatives. Unfortunately that sentiment has not been apparent in the City of Trinidad's actions, as Trinidad officials continue to pursue their litigation against ARPA and instructed their representatives to cast dissenting votes opposing opportunities such as the Tri-State agreement even as they publicly support the actions ARPA is undertaking.

A few weeks ago ARPA submitted a posting similar to this one in an effort to correct information that had been printed in the Trinidad press. Our message then, as it is now, is to tell all the ARPA member communities, including Trinidad that litigation costs are driving up our rates and that ultimately means higher rates for our homes and businesses.

ARPA's focus moving forward should be developing solutions, such as the ARPA/Tri-State power supply agreement, that will help stabilize power supply and electric rates. Dollars spent on legal fees by both parties only hamper our ability to stabilize rates and improve all our financial positions.

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ARPA | eNews is an electronic newsletter designed to keep member communities and the public up to date on developments associated with the Arkansas River Power Authority. Please forward it to anyone you think would be interested. Contact Arvenia Morris at [amorris@arpapower.org](mailto:amorris@arpapower.org) to subscribe or unsubscribe.

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For more information, please contact us:

Arkansas River Power Authority  
P.O. Box 70  
Lamar, CO 81052  
Phone: (719) 336-3496  
Fax: (719) 336-5966  
Email: [arpa@arpapower.org](mailto:arpa@arpapower.org)