

OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING

April 21, 2026
9:00 AM by Zoom

The ARPA Operating Committee met by Zoom at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, April 21, 2026. Committee members in attendance included Dave Bachicha (Trinidad); Chris Arguello (La Junta); Houssin Hourieh (Lamar); Randy Holland (Holly); and Heath Piper (Springfield) and Lynn Wright (Las Animas). Joe La Salle and Ed Salazar (La Junta); Linda Vigil, Paul Cordova, Vince Rollo, Gerald Armijo (Trinidad); and ARPA staff members Rigel, Ritter and Morris were also in attendance.

Call to order: Chairman Hourieh called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Approval of Agenda.

The agenda was approved as received.

Discussion on Mobile Substation Use for Trinidad. a. Date and schedule for Project. i. Proposed schedule – move unit on-site 5/19 and connect on 5/20. The proposed schedule was discussed and the connect date is currently being evaluated. The substation will be transported as soon as arrangements can be made. **ii. How many days of operation are anticipated.** Trinidad estimates they will need the mobile substation for approximately 4-7 days, depending on Cross Canyon Engineering who will be assisting with the maintenance work. **b. General Description of Project.** The City of Trinidad has requested to use the mobile substation to perform routine maintenance at their substation. **i. 69 kV connect/disconnect.** The City of Trinidad plans to run their generators during the upcoming substation maintenance. This approach will eliminate the need for a service outage. The 69kV line will not be energized during the maintenance period. **ii. Review of Operating procedures. 1. Usage fee and associated expenses (transportation, permit, etc.).** The usage fees were discussed including the potential for the Operating Committee to waive all, or a portion, of fees. **c. Do we want/need a half day training prior to energizing the unit. i. Training could take place on-site at Trinidad.** A training session will be scheduled once the substation is in Trinidad. **d. Recommendation for transportation company.** Dewitt Excavating (Lamar) may be a possible source for transportation of the unit. Rigel will contact Dustin Dewitt. Linda Vigil will also look for possible transportation companies. Prior to (in La Junta), and after the move (to Trinidad), there are some tests for voltage and rotation that will need to be performed on the mobile substation before it is connected.

Members Mutual Aid. Trinidad is currently in need of crossarms. Members are checking their respective inventories to see if they can accommodate this request. Additionally, Rick will be contacting Colorado Springs Utilities to check for availability.

Update on Proposed Solar Installations. Rick provided a quick update on the solar projects. There is some difficulty with getting the permit for the Prowers County solar facility. The other locations are on schedule.

Next Steps. **a. Confirm schedule for placing substation into service.** Once there is a specific date set for connecting the unit in Trinidad, the Operating Committee will reconvene for a quick review for how to proceed. **b. Schedule training session if necessary.** Soon after the substation is delivered to Trinidad a training session will be held in Trinidad at the location where the substation will be energized. **c. Modify Operating procedures as necessary.** Testing on the substation will need to be performed before, and after, the unit is moved to Trinidad. **d. Contract transportation company and schedule move.** The selected trucking company must conduct an on-site inspection of the trailer in La Junta prior to transport. The trucking company will be responsible for obtaining all necessary permits and maintaining required insurance coverage. Rick and Linda will follow up on leads for transportation companies capable of moving the substation. In the best-case scenario, the substation will be moved within the next 2 weeks.

Next Meeting Date. The next meeting date, May 14, 2026.

Adjourn. The meeting concluded at 9:39 AM.



Submitted by Houssin Hourieh, Chairman