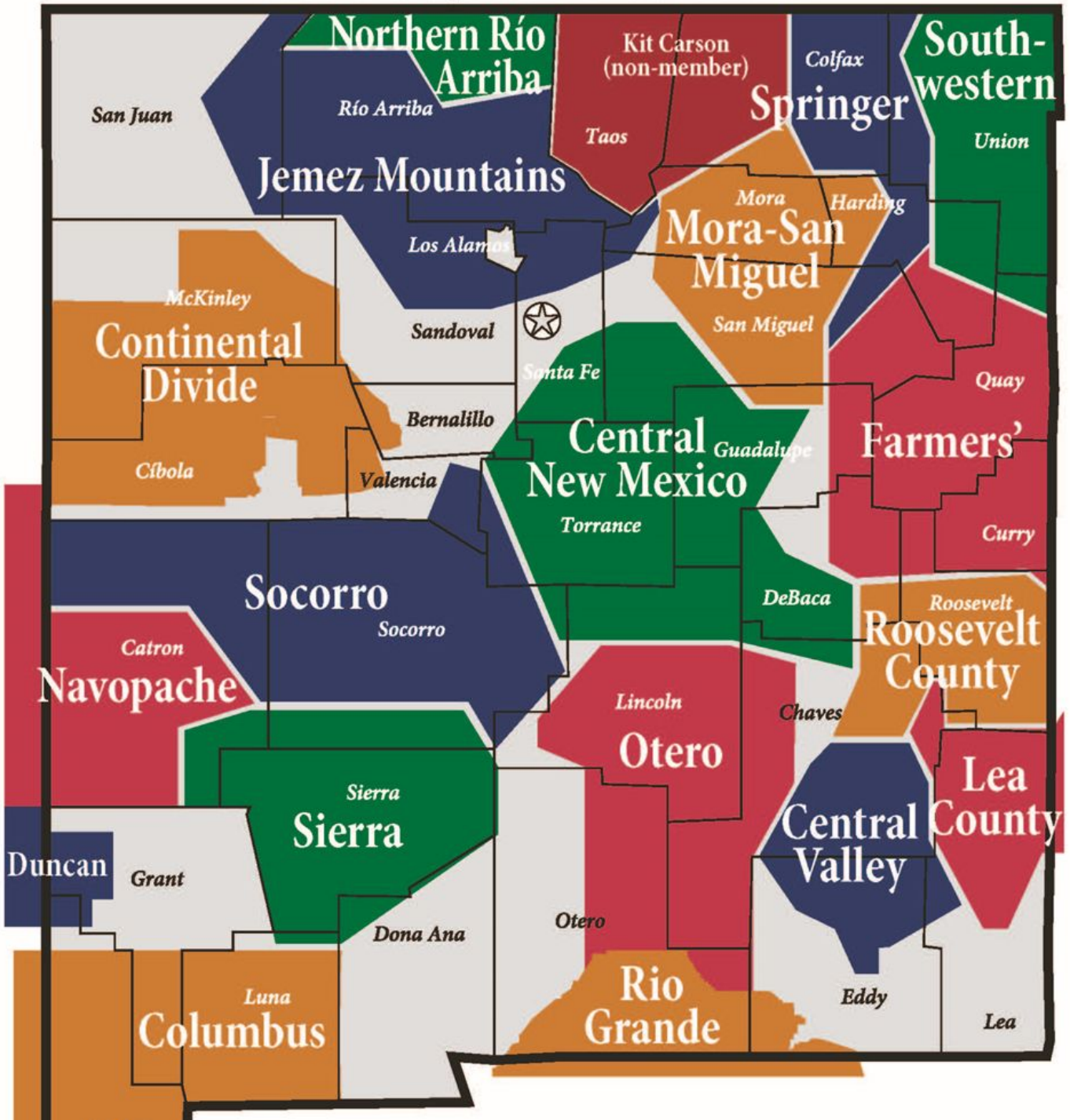
NEW MEXICO RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

# New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative's Footprint



# Rural Electric Distribution Cooperative Preparedness

- Coops generally operate under RUS guided 4-year and long-term plans for upgrades and expansions to infrastructure. They are prepared to change as electrification increases
- Distribution systems designed and built to handle 25-50% more than current load
- Actively modernizing and hardening the grid to accept more renewable energy and electrification expansion
- Because of the lack of access to natural gas, newer homes are already all electric
- Efficient electric heating/cooling and appliances preferred over propane

# Rural Electric Distribution Cooperative Initiatives

## Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency and Weatherization

- Low to no interest loans
- Energy Star appliance rebates
- EV Rebates up to 50% of the cost
  - 16 Level 2 and 11 Level 3 in NM since 2022
- Electric Thermal Storage Units
- Electric Water Heaters
- Weatherization incentives especially for low-income members

Rates

- Shifting from kWh sales to cost of service rates
- Time of Use Rates
- All electric incentives

## Renewable Energy

- Meeting and Exceeding New Mexico ETA
  - New Mexico Cooperatives
    - Over 25 MW local utility scale solar projects
    - Over 15 MW installed capacity of behind the meter solar that is growing exponentially every year
  - Tri-State
    - By 2025 50% of the energy supplied to coops will be from renewable sources
    - 80% emissions reduction in greenhouse gas by 2030
  - Western Farmers
    - Currently 26% renewable energy supplied to New Mexico and Oklahoma, not including hydro generation contracts or SPP's 37% wind generation
    - Committed to meet 50% renewables mix in the coming years

# Challenges

- Rural communities are shrinking
  - Businesses are closing
  - Workers are difficult to hire & retain
  - Cost of operating is spread across smaller number of members, increasing energy burden
- Slow electric car adaption because of cost, lack of charging infrastructure and long distances
- Largest percentage of territory serve homes on unimproved dirt roads (statewide 25% of the roads are paved mostly in urban areas)

# Supporting Electric Cooperatives Supports Electrification

Rural economic development

Funding weatherization and energy efficiency for low-income members

Have cost effective building and appliance options

Build out charging infrastructure first, adaption will follow

Invite Cooperatives to the table

# Questions?