



Board of Public Utilities

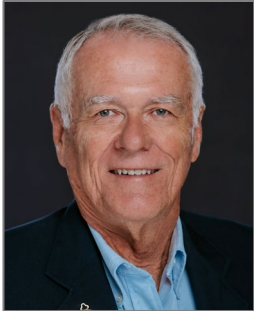
DRAFT #5

Presentation to County Council

Robert Gibson, Chair

July 15, 2025

Board Members



Member

Position

Term Ends

Robert Gibson

Chair

2028

Eric Stromberg

Vice Chair

2030

Jennifer
Hollingsworth

Member

2029

Matt Heavner

Member

2026

Charlie Nakhleh

Member

2027

Senior Management



Philo S. Shelton, III
—
Utilities Manager

Deputy Utility Managers



James
Alarid
—
Engineering
Division



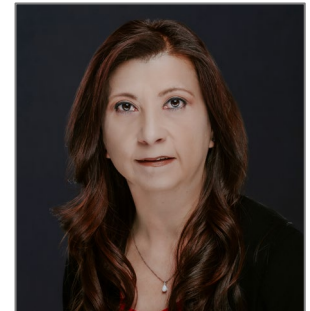
Ben
Olbrich
—
Electric
Production



Stephen
Marez
—
Electric
Distribution



Clay
Moseley
—
Gas, Water
and Sewer
Services



Joann
Gentry
—
Finance and
Administration

DPU is a Large Enterprise

- Four Utilities: Wastewater, Water, Natural Gas, Electricity (including DOE/LANL)
- Employees: 108 FTEs
 - Stable, normal turnover
 - Numerous retirements
- Budget: \$109M for FY26
- Assets: \$297M



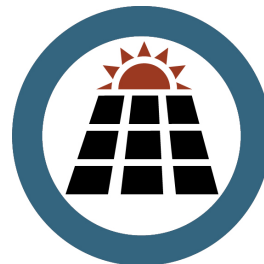
Utilities Main Day-to-Day Jobs



- Keep lights on and fluids (gas, water, wastewater) flowing when and where they should
- Do it all safely for customers and employees
- Both went well in FY25

BPU/DPU Major Goals *(summarized)*

- Maintain high service level at reasonable cost
- Transition to non-CH electric supply (by 2040)
- Phase out Natural Gas (by 2070)
 - DPU has no authority to require electrification or building upgrades
 - DPU can educate customers in use reduction / electrification
 - DPU must have electric supply & distribution system capacity



Active Major Projects in Progress



- Encourage energy efficiency and electrification (ongoing)
- Los Alamos Switch Station (LASS)
- Jemez Mountain Fire Protection (Water & Electricity to Ski Hill)
- Denver Steels Water/Sewer Replacement
- NM-4 Water Main Replacement (Completed)
- Upgrade Billing System for TOU and Demand Rates (Target July 1, 2026)
- Direct Bury Cable Replacement (3rd year of ~10-year project)

Current Major Issues/ Projects Being Worked

- ECA renewal
- Foxtail Flats – FONSI, business plan
- Cove Fort (4 MW base load geothermal thru UAMPS)
- Elk Ridge gas distribution system



Current Studies



- Electrification – Burns & McDonnell / 1898 Co. – Due July 25
- EV Infrastructure (and Fleet)
 - CMO/Sustainability Coord.
 - Stantec – Due Dec. 25
- Current Natural Gas Usage Patterns (UNM / NMSU – Due June 26)

Future Electric Challenges

- Increased demand from electrification
 - Buildings & Appliances
 - EVs
- New non-CH electric resources
 - More PV?
 - Wind?
 - Storage – Batteries, H₂ (KCEC), CO₂ (“Energy Dome”), ???
 - Nuclear?
 - Geothermal (“Advanced”)?
- Electric Distribution System 2.0



Future Water Supply Challenges – New Well?

- PM-3 shut down long-term by Cr plume
- LANL (computer) cooling demand projected to rise
- New well in White Rock (Overlook Park?)
- Would tap San Juan/Chama surface right (1200 ac. ft./yr.)



Summary

- Department running safely and well
- Keeping lights on and all fluids flowing when and where they should
- Important studies in progress: Electric Distribution, EVs, Natural Gas Usage
- Approaching major decision points: ECA, Foxtail Flats, Replacement Well
- Always seeking new carbon-free electric resources



DPU Recent Accomplishments



- October 2024: Received a Public Power Customer Satisfaction Award from the American Public Power Association.
- October 2024: Received an Excellence in Communications Award from the American Public Power Association.
- December 2024: Granted accreditation by the American Public Works Association (with a 100% rating and full compliance with all applicable practices.) Only DPU and LANL are accredited by APWA in New Mexico.
- May 2025: Selected for an Associated General Contractors “AGC Best Buildings Award” for the Bayo Booster Water Tank project (with Spear D.)
- June 2025: Los Alamos County, inclusive of DPU’s utility conservation focus area, received the 2025 Chamber award for Environmental Sustainability.

Questions?

Board of Public Utilities

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DPU Quarterly Report

<https://ladpu.com/FY25Q3>



Electric, Gas, Water, and Wastewater Services