



Removing Hazard Trees and Protecting Power Lines while Ensuring Safety and Reliability



Project Goal

Mora San Miguel Electric Coop. Inc. (MSMEC) is committed to providing safe and reliable electricity to its members impacted by the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire. Our priority is to address hazard trees and rebuild critical infrastructure. Partnering with Transmission & Distribution Services, LLC (T&D), we will conduct damage assessments, remove hazard trees, and implement emergency measures to restore and maintain electricity.

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Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire



Hazard Tree Cutting and Removal Project

Frequently asked questions

→ When will Hazard Tree cutting start?

The Hazard Tree Cutting and Removal Project started in the Spring of 2024 and will be an ongoing project until there are no further hazards to any of the power lines in the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon burn scar.

→ Will this work impact landowner claims with FEMA?

No, this FEMA-funded Project is a partnership between MSMEC and T&D. Individual claims with FEMA will not be affected by this work.



→ What will happen to the trees once cut?

Once the trees are cut, the landowner has two options. Option one, the landowner keeps the wood. All trees cut on the property will be delimbed and decked in an agreeable, accessible location. Option two, the landowner allows the wood to be removed and disposed of by MSMEC and T&D.

→ Can landowners cut their own trees?

This Project is under legal obligation to enter all properties for the protection of the MSMEC power lines. We strictly advise that landowners refrain from cutting trees within a detrimental distance to the power lines to avoid legal damages.

→ Can Project crews access private property outside the MSMEC easement without permission?

Yes, the Hazard Tree Cutting and Removal Project is under legal obligation to access the entire power line and to address hazard trees that pose an immediate and future threat to the critical infrastructure of the power line. Therefore, Hazard Tree Cutting and Removal Project crews have been granted access through **New Mexico Statute § 62-15-3**.

→ Do landowners have a say as to which trees will be cut, including living trees and tall, large diameter trees, dead or alive?

No, professional arborists and foresters are evaluating each tree in proximity to power lines and critical infrastructure for its health and structural integrity now and in the next few years.

→ Who will remove debris from the emergency cutting and when?

When emergency cutting has ceased, our forestry contractor will return to remove any trash, equipment or other tree debris.

→ Who will repair roads?

If any damage is caused during the use of MSMEC's easement or private roads, the Hazard Tree Cutting and Removal Project will repair the damage.

→ How is legal liability handled? Are landowners responsible if something happens to someone on their property?

No, landowners are not liable if a Project crew member is injured while performing the Project's scope of work.