

# The Bandera PROPHECT

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## BEC Fiber exceeds expectations

Bandera Electric Cooperative has made significant progress expanding its fiber network over the past three years. By the end of April, BEC surpassed its 2020 year-end goal of connecting 1,000 additional members, and on May 1 reached another milestone of connecting 6,000 subscribers.

“The importance of having broadband internet access has been clearly demonstrated, especially during this challenging time when many members are working and schooling from home. As energy sales are slowing, the demand for internet access has increased at an exponential rate,” BEC CEO Bill Hetherington said.

BEC Fiber is different from other broadband providers because it utilizes a Fiber to the Home (FTTH) installation process where fiber optics are run from a central point directly to a residence or business providing dramatically increased connection speeds.

To overcome the obstacle of installing inside the home, and to ensure installations continue, BEC Fiber implemented a unique installation process to ensure the safety of both employees and members during the coronavirus pandemic.

BEC is making judicious use of its resources aiding the deployment of the fiber network to increase both the safety and reliability of its electric grid while simultaneously providing broadband access to members.

“BEC Fiber is on pace to connect 2,600 subscribers this year. Our duty is to the members, and we want to do everything we can to enhance their lives,” Manager of BEC Fiber Shane Schmidt said.

BEC Fiber currently serves portions of Bandera, Kendall and Kerr counties, and plans to provide access to 82 percent of BEC members by 2023. To support the expansion of the fiber network, the BEC Board of Directors recently approved additional funds to expand into new zones.

To find out if fiber service is available in your area, please visit [BanderaElectric.com/FiberService](http://BanderaElectric.com/FiberService).

#### About Bandera Electric

Bandera Electric Cooperative currently serves more than 26,000 members and provides highly reliable electric service to more than 36,000 meters in a seven-county territory in the Texas Hill Country. As a member-owned cooperative, BEC continually searches for new, innovative programs to promote energy efficiency and quality member service. Find more information about BEC at [BanderaElectric.com](http://BanderaElectric.com) or by calling 866-226-3372.