

Warning to wives about SEC billing statement

Rebecca Moeller - San Acacia - Oct 1, 2018 Updated Oct 1, 2018

This letter is a warning to wives in Socorro County. Please check your Socorro Electric Cooperative (SEC) billing statement. Make sure your name appears on the bill as well as your husband's name or what is happening to me could happen to you.

Next month marks the 25th anniversary my husband and I moved to San Acacia. I have no idea why only his name appeared on our utility bills the past 25 years but I didn't think anything about this. It was he, after all, paying the bills. I just received a letter from SEC informing me that since my husband has passed away, they cannot continue to allow billing to my residence unless I follow a ridiculous set of instructions that include, I kid you not, providing them with a copy of my husband's will! Oh, and they are requiring a deposit (or a letter of credit from them; again, I kid you not) plus a "connect" fee for power that is already connected.

The SEC wants to erase my husband's name when in fact, although deceased, he is still paying the bill through his pension from Socorro General Hospital. The SEC letter is signed by the "Collection Clerk," making me feel like I am some sort of deadbeat.

It appears that my cutoff date will be 11/13/18. Perhaps I will be vulnerable with no electricity — no security light, no alarm system but I will still have a generator, candles, a guard dog and a shotgun plus wonderful neighbors who look after me.

The SEC does NOT get to see my husband's will. It is not any of their business! If their by-laws require this, a by-law change should be in order.