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## Don't spend Valentine's Day in the dark

Keep mylar balloons away from power lines

(Albuquerque, NM) — Ahead of Valentine's Day, PNM is reminding customers to use caution if they plan to celebrate their love with mylar balloons. This celebration can quickly become a serious hazard if the mylar balloons come into contact with power lines and cause outages that could impact thousands of customers.

Mylar balloons are made of metallic materials that conduct electricity. If mylar balloons touch power lines they can cause power outages, damage electrical equipment and pose a safety risk to customers, employees, and the general public.

In 2024, PNM crews responded to 14 power outages caused by mylar balloons, impacting nearly 4,000 customers.

PNM is encouraging customers to continue to be safe with these balloons and help avoid outages for the community.

- Securely Tie Balloons: Always securely tie mylar balloons to a weight heavy enough to prevent them from floating away.
- Indoor Use Only: Keep mylar balloons indoors or securely anchored if used outdoors to prevent them from drifting into power lines.
- Proper Disposal: After Valentine's Day, deflate and dispose of mylar balloons in the trash.

By following these tips, PNM customers can help prevent unnecessary outages and ensure a safe Valentine's Day for everyone. For more information on electrical safety tips, visit <a href="https://pnm.com/safety">PNM.com/safety</a>.

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## REPORTER TOOL KIT

Video / B-Roll
Click here for a
link to download
video of mylar
balloons and
power lines.

## **About PNM**

PNM is the largest electricity provider in New Mexico serving nearly 550,000 customers. PNM is committed to transitioning its electricity to 100% carbon free while ensuring a reliable and resilient power system. Visit <a href="PNM.com">PNM.com</a> for more information.