

Co-op emphasizes reliable & affordable energy policy

Central Electric recently joined other electric cooperative leaders to meet with members of Congress to discuss timely, pressing legislative issues affecting electric co-ops and our member-owners. Building these close, working relationships with our representatives is key to our continued mission to provide safe, reliable, and affordable power to you, our members.

Our members expect the lights to stay on at a cost they can afford, and our nation's energy policies must meet this fundamental expectation. Keeping the lights on is not a partisan issue. Reliable electricity is vital to America's economy and national security.

Our message to representatives was simple: we all need to work together to protect safe, reliable, and affordable electric service. As our country continues to strive toward net-zero carbon emissions, which we support, we must also be careful at the speed mandated to get us to that point. During our most recent meetings, we specifically advocated for Congress to oppose the Environmental Protection Agency's Power Plant Rule which will force the premature closure of always available power plants while also making it harder to build critical new power plants, a policy which threatens reliable electricity supply. We also stressed the importance of protecting USDA funding for co-ops, specifically highlighting programs designed to support energy innovation.

Finally, co-ops have increasingly faced supply chain challenges in procuring grid components, but recent advocacy efforts have led to improvements in the Department of Energy's transformer efficiency rule, ensuring stability in the market while gradually enhancing efficiency standards without worsening existing supply chain issues. We were able to thank our legislators for their help in this area.

Thank you to Senators Thom Tillis and Ted Budd, Representative Richard Hudson, as well as their staff members for engaging with us on issues important to our members. We appreciate their work to help protect the service we provide to you, our members, and their constituents.



Eddie Oldham, CEO and General Manager, presented co-op issues and the continued need for reliability to Congressional members and their staffs.