

***Remarks of Anthony “Tony” Campbell,
President & CEO of East Kentucky Power Cooperative
at April 8, 2025, signing of presidential executive order***

Mr. President, on behalf of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and electric co-ops across America, thank you for your leadership to restore American energy dominance.

Electric co-ops keep the lights on for 42 million Americans across 56% of the nation. We are owned by the communities we serve and provide electricity to growing communities, new data centers, and manufacturing plants.

Electric co-ops are powering America. And we are proud to partner with you and your Administration to power America into the future.

Kentucky understands the importance of reliable, affordable, and American-made energy – especially coal and natural gas. Coal fuels most of the electricity generated by my co-op.

America must keep coal plants open and running to ensure reliable electricity when we need it most. To meet growing demand over the next decade and ensure fuel security, America will need more always available power, such as coal.

And we recognize the hardworking American men and women that support our mission. To all of America’s line workers and coal miners: thank you for your service to our country.

Affordable and reliable electricity is the cornerstone of our economy, especially American manufacturing. But too many government leaders have pushed policies that have made our electric grid significantly less reliable and our energy too expensive.

That begins to change now. Your actions today will prevent the premature closing of essential power plants and help us meet tomorrow’s energy needs. And they will help us continue to deliver reliable, safe and affordable electricity.

Mr. President, thank you in particular for providing immediate, much needed relief from the Biden EPA regulations that would force the shutdown of critical coal units.

Finally, I want to say congratulations on the all-star energy team you've assembled. Electric co-ops have already been working with Secretaries Burgum, Wright and Rollins and Administrator Zeldin and we are excited for all we will accomplish together.

Mr. President, thank you again for your actions today and for your support for electric co-ops as we work to keep the lights on across America.