



Kentucky's
Touchstone Energy
Cooperatives®

Press Release

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Cox Named Top 50 Economic Developer

Brittany Cox is among the top 50 economic development professionals in North America, according to a leading economic development consulting firm.

Cox was listed among *North America's Top 50 Economic Developers for 2025* as determined by Consultant Connect, an organization dedicated to connecting economic development and site selection professionals. She works to bring new and expanding businesses to rural Kentucky in her role as Associate Economic Development Manager for Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives

"It is an honor to receive this recognition, and it also is an honor to work on behalf of 17 electric cooperatives and the 1.1 million Kentucky residents they serve," said Cox.

Cox joined Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives in 2022 after serving in the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development.

"Since joining our team from the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Brittany has been instrumental in elevating our cooperatives' economic development efforts on both a national and international level," said Rodney Hitch, Director of Economic Development. "From assisting in recruiting German copper producer Wieland to Shelbyville, to countless other economic development projects, her time with the cooperatives has created transformational opportunities for the communities we serve."

"On behalf of the members of the Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, we are so proud of Brittany being named to this prestigious group of economic developers," said Brad Thomas, Manager of Economic Development.

Hitch and Thomas were named to Consultant Connect's *North America's Top 50 Economic Developers* in 2019.

This continues a string of honors for Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives' economic development team. The cooperatives were named among the top U.S. utilities in economic development by *Site Selection* magazine for the third year in a row in 2024.

In 2024, Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives assisted with projects that resulted in announcements of more than \$1.45 billion in new investment and over 2,400 new jobs in Kentucky.

The economic development professionals honored on the list are having real impact, Consultant Connect said.

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For more information, contact:

Nick Comer, External Affairs Manager
Office (general): (859) 744-4812, ext. 9450
Office (direct): (859) 745-9450
Mobile: (859) 333-8735
nick.comer@ekpc.coop

“We believe economic development goes beyond infrastructure and investment—it’s about creating opportunities that transform lives,” Consultant Connect said in a statement. “We’re honored to shine a spotlight on these exceptional leaders who are driving meaningful change across North America.”

Kentucky’s Touchstone Energy Cooperatives have established ground-breaking tools to showcase rural Kentucky’s opportunities, including their web site, www.DataIsPower.org. The co-ops use aerial drones to gather imagery and data about industrial and commercial sites, using videos showcase the sites worldwide, with all the information site selectors need to determine if a site fits their needs.

Kentucky’s Touchstone Energy Cooperatives include 17 not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperatives that serve more than 1 million Kentucky residents across 87 Kentucky counties.

They include:

- Big Sandy RECC, Paintsville, Ky.
- Blue Grass Energy, Nicholasville, Ky.
- Clark Energy Cooperative, Winchester, Ky.
- Cumberland Valley Electric, Gray, Ky.
- Farmers RECC, Glasgow, Ky.
- Fleming-Mason Energy, Flemingsburg, Ky.
- Grayson RECC, Grayson, Ky.
- Inter-County Energy Cooperative, Danville, Ky.
- Jackson Energy Cooperative, McKee, Ky.
- Licking Valley RECC, West Liberty, Ky.
- Nolin RECC, Elizabethtown, Ky.
- Owen Electric Cooperative, Owenton, Ky.
- Salt River Electric, Bardstown, Ky.
- Shelby Energy Cooperative, Shelbyville, Ky.
- South Kentucky RECC, Somerset Ky.
- Taylor County RECC, Campbellsville, Ky.
- East Kentucky Power Cooperative

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