

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins,

On behalf of the nearly 900 not-for-profit electric cooperative members of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), thank you for taking the time to speak to electric cooperative leaders at PowerXchange about the Trump administration's priorities for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

NRECA's member cooperatives are not-for-profit entities independently owned and governed by the people they serve. From growing exurban regions to remote farming communities, electric cooperatives provide power to 42 million Americans across 48 states. They keep the lights on across 56% of the American landscape – areas that are primarily residential and sparsely populated. Those characteristics make it comparatively more expensive for electric cooperatives to operate than the rest of the electric sector, which tends to serve more compact, industrialized, and densely populated areas.

The New ERA and PACE programs provide important tools for co-ops to invest in their systems and unleash American energy by complementing existing fossil baseload resources. The programs finance electric cooperative projects using the same statute that the Electric Loan Program has relied on for decades. These programs are completely voluntary, and co-ops responded overwhelmingly with the opportunity to broaden their existing integrated resource plans.

As promised when we spoke in Atlanta, attached you will find 46 letters from 42 electric cooperatives that have been selected by the USDA to receive New ERA and PACE funding. These letters highlight how these projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. These vital projects will unleash over 13 gigawatts of American energy in rural communities across the nation and help realize the Trump administration's goal of American energy dominance.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners as the Trump administration works to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for recognizing the value of these projects and for your support of USDA's energy infrastructure programs.

Sincerely,



Jim Matheson
CEO, NRECA

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March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Allegheny Electric Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Allegheny Electric Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Zero Emissions Generation Procurement Project: \$20,580,000

This funding will help Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Allegheny) purchase a steady supply of electric generation, which we expect to be nuclear energy, totaling 1.3 million megawatt-hours over five years, beginning in 2026. Allegheny undertook this project voluntarily in order to reduce electric generation costs for their rural consumer-members in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. No generation will be taken offline as a part of this project and no jobs will be lost. Allegheny is only adding to its existing energy portfolio. Without this funding, projected energy costs for hundreds of thousands of rural consumers will increase over the next five years.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Brame
CEO, Allegheny Electric Cooperative
212 Locust Street, Harrisburg, PA 17108

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Arizona Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. and Sierra Southwest Cooperative Services, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Arizona Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. and Sierra Southwest Cooperative Services, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

PACE Project 1: Sahuarita Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), PACE Project 2: Mesquite BESS, PACE Project 3: Mohave BESS; New ERA Project 1: APACHE Station Coal Asset Retirement, New ERA Project 2: APACHE II Solar and BESS, New ERA Project 3: WAPA I Solar and BESS, New ERA Project 4: Scout Wind, New ERA Project 5: Eastern Territory Solar and BESS, New ERA Project 6: Bautista Solar Microgrid and BESS, New ERA Project 7: Santa Rosa Peak: PACE: Loan 1: \$15,920,670, Loan 2: \$39,316,593; New ERA Project 1: \$24,524,206 30-year 0% interest loan, Project 2: \$146,455,315 grant, Project 3: \$216,167,213 grant, Project 4: \$52,740,392 grant, Project 5: \$10,821,336 grant, Project 6: \$5,086,529 grant

This portfolio of renewable energy projects, including high-capacity solar and microgrid systems, presents a transformative opportunity for both rural communities and Arizona Electric Power Cooperative. With some of the highest solar irradiance in the nation, the Southwest offers an ideal environment for cost-effective, reliable solar generation, reducing energy costs while enhancing grid resilience. Solar provides a hedge against rising energy prices, directly benefiting rural consumers and businesses with lower and more predictable utility rates. Unlike traditional energy sources, solar has no fuel costs, allowing cooperatives to maintain financial stability while supporting economic growth in rural communities. Additionally, large-scale solar projects drive job creation and investment, strengthening local economies and reinforcing Arizona's leadership in the nation's energy transition. Arizona Electric Power Cooperative is strategically investing in complementary natural gas and solar generation, ensuring that these resources work together to

provide dispatchable, affordable, and reliable power. A remotely located microgrid will further strengthen energy independence by reducing reliance on long-distance transmission and enabling localized power management, while being highly cost-effective due to the lack of transmission build costs. Together, these solutions lower operating expenses, mitigate outage risks, and support rural businesses and critical infrastructure with stable, predictable energy supply. These initiatives align with the Trump administration's 2025 priorities, which emphasize leveraging diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and ensure long-term energy security for rural America. By integrating high-capacity solar generation and utilizing generous federal programs like New ERA, cooperatives can modernize their energy infrastructure without significant upfront capital expenditures, providing benefit to rural communities across the system. The result of these projects meets a critical need for a more resilient, cost-effective energy future that positions rural Arizona for sustained economic and infrastructure growth

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Patrick F. Ledger

CEO, Arizona Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. and Sierra Southwest Cooperative Services, Inc.
1000 S. Highway 80, Benson, Arizona 85602

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Lambert Solar #1 and #2; Georgetown Solar and BESS - \$126,580,351

Central Electric Power Cooperative will utilize grant funding from New ERA to augment our energy portfolio via Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) to procure 395 MW of solar energy from three utility scale projects. It is very difficult to bring natural gas pipelines into the Lowcountry of South Carolina and these projects help diversify our resource portfolio and is a natural hedge against high natural gas prices. In addition, Central intends to sign PPAs for two 75 MW Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). These projects will help meet peak load periods during the summer and winter months and increase grid reliability during these stressful periods. This helps Central diversify and continue to provide reliable and affordable energy to our customers.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Rob Hochstetler
CEO, Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.
20 Cooperative Way, Columbia, SC 29210

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

**NCMPA1 Nuclear PPA: Grant of \$315,398,375 and \$126,684,000 in 0% interest loan
(\$58,021,272 in BA)**

Central Electric Power Cooperative has purchased rights to 150MW of capacity and associated energy from this existing, in-state, baseload nuclear plant operated by Duke Energy. Central began utilizing this power to meet our existing and future load growth January 1, 2025. The nuclear license for this facility runs through 2043. If the license is extended, Central's Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) will extend along with it. Nuclear power is expensive but needed for grid reliability.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Rob Hochstetler
CEO, Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.
20 Cooperative Way, Columbia, SC 29010

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Chickasaw Electric Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Chickasaw Electric Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Stanton Energy Project: \$35,667,202

This New ERA investment will be used for Chickasaw Electric Cooperative to procure over 40 megawatts of clean, renewable energy from solar plants and battery energy storage systems for rural areas in Mississippi and Tennessee. This will power nearly 8,000 homes each year. This project will create nearly 20 short- and long-term jobs with ongoing apprenticeship opportunities. More than 22,000 consumers in Tennessee's rural counties of Fayette, Haywood, and Hardeman, as well as Mississippi's Marshall and Benton, will benefit from the New ERA project. It will also have an impact on a Tennessee regional Megasite, home to Ford's Blue Oval City, with the goal of promoting economic development, creating high-quality jobs on the site and in the surrounding areas, and encouraging and promoting the development of manufacturing, warehouse, distribution, retail, utilities, educational institutions, housing, and other similar uses.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Loyd Muncy
General Manager, Chickasaw Electric Cooperative
17970 Hwy 64, Somerville, TN 38068

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Concordia Electric Cooperative, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Concordia Electric Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Mundu Solar: \$11,676,074

Concordia Electric is a member owned rural electric cooperative in Louisiana and its customers are its owners. The majority of the area served by Concordia Electric is in rural Louisiana with the majority of its load serving residential customers. Concordia Electric has a power purchase agreement with Mondu Solar, LLC, to provide both energy and capacity from a physical solar generation resource that will be constructed in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana (a rural community). Construction of the project commenced in January 2025 and the project has a commercial operation date during the first quarter of 2026. This solar project complements Concordia Electric's power supply portfolio by providing a locked-in fixed per kWh energy price for a portion of Concordia's energy need for 25 years, providing a hedge against rising energy prices for Concordia's members and providing qualifying capacity as an additional benefit for the same fixed price. Concordia Electric started the New ERA grant application process in September of 2023 and received final approval for this grant in December of 2024. The commitment letter with USDA was executed in January of 2025. The total amount of Concordia Electric's grant is \$11,676,074. The grant is structured as a direct reimbursement of a portion of Concordia Electric's monthly charges received pursuant to its power purchase agreement with Mondu Solar, LLC. This grant will help Concordia Electric to continue to deliver safe, reliable and affordable power to its members. 100% of grant money received from USDA to Concordia Electric will flow directly to its members, i.e. Concordia Electric's members will receive a dollar for dollar credit which will help reduce its members electric bills. In fact, the New ERA grant funds will directly reduce Concordia Electric's

member rates by approximately 2.5% and will result in annual savings of approximately 4% of total power costs for the next 20 years.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Billy Joe Davis
General Manager, Concordia Electric Cooperative, Inc.
U.S. Highway 84 West, Jonesville, Louisiana 71343

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Cordova Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CEC), I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Cordova Electric Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Cordova Electric Clean Power Initiative: \$20,000,000 Budgetary Authority

CEC was awarded \$20M of USDA New ERA program budgetary authority which can be applied as grants, no or low interest loans, or all low interest loans of up to \$65,000,000 for development of two small dam storage hydroelectric projects. The two projects will move CEC to 95% renewable with a firm baseload of winter-stored energy supply and community water supply to support one of the top US seafood fisheries and processing ports by landed value. The extremely low O&M cost of hydropower and the offsetting of extremely expensive (\$0.40-0.50/kWh) diesel production costs helps us reduce rates and continue to deliver high system reliability on our remote Alaska microgrid.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Clay Koplín
CEO, Cordova Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 20, Cordova, AK 99574-0020

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Dairyland Power Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Dairyland Power Cooperative New ERA Project: \$595,817,804

Dairyland was awarded a \$595 million New ERA award, which has three key components:

1. Refinancing of stranded asset debt: Dairyland Power Cooperative has active loans on several coal plants that were prematurely retired as a result of an onerous and misguided regulatory environment driven by anti-fossil fuel policies and activists. The award allows Dairyland to refinance active loans on these retired coal-fired power plants at a lower interest rate, which will reduce electricity costs for rural Americans served across Dairyland's four-state service territory in Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois. New ERA refinancing provides Dairyland's rural members relief from this burden that was driven, in part, by climate change activism. Refinancing of stranded asset debt will lead to a savings of approximately \$80 million, which will have an immediate, positive impact on our members' electricity bills.
2. Transmission reliability: Dairyland's New ERA award provides grants or low-cost financing for over \$150 million in planned transmission line upgrades and rebuilds covering up to 195.5 miles of 69kV and 161kV lines. Dairyland's New ERA transmission projects will provide critical benefit to grid reliability and resiliency, reduce transmission congestion, create construction and long-term maintenance jobs, and support economic growth in rural communities. Through New ERA, these vital transmission projects can be completed at a savings to our members of approximately \$40 million.

3. New energy generation: Through New ERA, Dairyland will enter into Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) for a robust portfolio of clean energy generation projects that will complement our existing fleet of natural gas and coal-fired power plants. Dairyland carefully cultivated a portfolio of over 1,000 megawatts of new energy generation that is specifically tailored to provide affordable, reliable electricity to the rural communities we serve, while also facilitating energy independence and new economic growth. Dairyland is not building these projects – we will offtake the power from facilities already being developed through PPAs. This power is vital to our system’s long-term growth and reliability, and the award allows rural cooperative utilities like Dairyland to better compete with investor-owned utilities (IOU) for the first time. IOUs are guaranteed a rate of return in their capital investment and receive production tax credits. Cooperatives do not have the same advantages, and the New ERA award will lower electricity rates, diversify our energy portfolio, and provide Dairyland with increased control over our future power supply. Dairyland will leverage New ERA funding to execute PPAs for projects in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois – resulting in a total project investment of \$2.1 billion. Residents and businesses in the rural Midwest will directly benefit from these investments.

Dairyland’s New ERA award supports affordable electricity rates, increases grid reliability, and facilitates a diverse, all-of-the-above resource portfolio. The award allows Dairyland to increase energy generation and capacity to meet growing demand, as well as to finance vital transmission projects needed to support growth in rural areas. As demand on the system grows, a diverse mix of resources is crucial to support our rural members and communities – which is why Dairyland is also seriously exploring the potential of small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs). New ERA puts downward pressure on future rates – based on the best available financial forecasts at the time of Dairyland’s application, New ERA has the potential to positively impact future rates by up to 2.8% per year (over the next 15 years). Ultimately, Dairyland is focused on business certainty: our resource planning is not focused on tomorrow, but the next 10, 20, 40 years – and future resource decisions have been made based on the New ERA program.

America’s electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration’s commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA’s rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Brent Ridge
CEO, Dairyland Power Cooperative
3200 East Avenue S., La Crosse, WI 54602-0817

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration’s priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration’s goals of American energy dominance.

Dairyland Power Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

PACE Program Project 1 (Jackson Electric Cooperative): \$3,120,000

Dairyland PACE Project 1 involves the installation of two megawatts of solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity connected to a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) capable of providing one megawatt of power for four hours. The solar and storage system will be deployed near Black River Falls, Wisconsin and will serve a population of 3,523, with 75% allocated to the Ho-Chunk Nation – supporting critical tribal infrastructure, including commercial buildings, a Head Start program, and a senior care facility. The project will provide clean energy to the grid and deploy stored energy during peak times, reducing electricity costs, lowering capacity demands, mitigating price volatility and increasing grid reliability. The project will be in Jackson County, Wisconsin, which is served by Jackson Electric Cooperative, a Dairyland member cooperative. The total project cost is \$7.8 million and the PACE Program provides financial benefit to Dairyland’s rural-members through a 40% loan forgiveness available upon project completion.

America’s electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration’s commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA’s rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Brent Ridge
CEO, Dairyland Power Cooperative
3200 East Avenue S., La Crosse, WI 54602-0817

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
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1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Dairyland Power Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

PACE Program Project 2 (Jump River Electric Cooperative): \$1,560,000

Dairyland PACE Project 2 involves the installation of two megawatts of solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity connected to a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) capable of providing one megawatt of power for four hours. The solar project will use Tier 1 bifacial modules and string inverters, while the BESS will employ lithium iron phosphate batteries. The solar and storage system will be deployed in Sawyer County, Wisconsin, which is served by Jump River Electric Cooperative – a Dairyland distribution member cooperative. Jump River Electric Cooperative serves 1,800 meters, and the project will assist in providing reliable energy for schools, a community center, and a medical facility. The project will deliver energy to the grid and deploy stored energy during peak times, reducing electricity costs, lowering capacity demands, mitigating price volatility and increasing grid reliability. The total project cost is \$7.8 million and the PACE Program provides financial benefit to Dairyland's rural members through a 20% loan forgiveness available upon project completion.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Brent Ridge
CEO, Dairyland Power Cooperative
3200 East Avenue S., La Crosse, WI 54602-0817

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA), I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

DMEA PACE: \$72,000,000

Our Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) project, an approximately \$96M solar and battery storage project, isn't slated for commencement of activity, and thereby funding expectations, until late 2026. The project is comprised of 20 MW solar coupled with 80 MWh of battery storage located in DMEA's service territory.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Jack Johnston
CEO, Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)
11925 6300 Rd Montrose, CO 81401

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

East Kentucky Power Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

EKPC's New ERA portfolio includes the following: Construction of 7 solar generation projects, 1 Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for hydropower, and 41 transmission and substation projects for a total of 49 projects.

EKPC's New ERA portfolio and award includes the following: 1) \$494,532,247 in grant funding; 2) \$2,250,000 in loan funding at 0% interest; and 3) \$950,587,500 in loan funding at 2% interest

These generation and transmission projects are critical to strengthening Kentucky's energy infrastructure and ensuring long-term reliability for rural communities. Many rural areas depend on long-distance power delivery, making grid upgrades essential to ensuring stable and reliable service. Upgrading the grid and expanding generation capacity will ensure that EKPC's owner-member cooperatives can efficiently deliver power across their service territories, reinforcing national energy security. Leveraging New ERA funding will support EKPC in modernizing its infrastructure, reducing energy losses, and adding energy supply to meet growing demand and strengthen grid resiliency. EKPC's New ERA portfolio aligns with an all-of-the-above energy strategy, complementing Kentucky's existing energy resources while ensuring rural communities have access to a diverse mix of dependable, American-produced power. Additionally, these projects will also support job creation, industrial growth, and economic development—key priorities for strengthening rural America. These investments align with President Trump's priorities of promoting energy independence, modernizing critical infrastructure, and ensuring affordable, reliable power delivery. Through advantage of generous federal programs like New ERA, EKPC and

other cooperatives can build much needed infrastructure without significant upfront capital expenditures, providing benefits to member cooperatives and customers. The end result of these projects, and New ERA funding, will enable a more resilient, cost-effective energy future for Kentucky.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Anthony "Tony" Campbell
CEO, East Kentucky Power Cooperative
4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, KY 40391

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



FLINT HILLS
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION
PO Box B * 1564 S 1000 Rd
Council Grove, KS 66846-0610
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative Association Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative Association Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

J Substation Solar Farm: \$500,500

The proposed 1 MW solar farm project will help provide rate stabilization and management of the Coincidental Peak for our consumer-members who are rural low-middle income Americans. All savings incurred by this project will be passed on to all Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative consumer-members. The cost savings combined with a reliability and resiliency focus on providing clean energy at an affordable cost.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Charles Goeckel
General Manager, Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative Association Inc.
1564 S. 1000 Rd., Council Grove, KS 66846

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Fox Islands Electric Cooperative (FIEC) / Fox Islands Wind (FIW), I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Fox Islands Electric Cooperative (FIEC) / Fox Islands Wind (FIW) is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

An Island in The Storm: Upgrading Wind Generation and Developing Solar PV in a Cooperative Community for Long-term Resiliency: \$14,500,000

FIEC and FIW's mission is to provide reliable, affordable, and responsible energy to the remote lobster fishing islands of North Haven and Vinalhaven, situated in Penobscot Bay, 11 miles off the coast of Maine. Isolated from mainland electric generation sources, FIEC and FIW are constructing an energy-independent, resilient microgrid that can function independently from the mainland grid, addressing energy supply, delivery, and system reliability challenges. FIEC and FIW plan to utilize New ERA funding to upgrade and extend the lifespan of their three existing wind turbines (increasing from 1.5-77 MW to 1.6-97 MW each) and install a 1 MW ground-mounted solar PV array on a capped landfill. These projects will reduce some of the highest electric costs in the nation. The New ERA projects make sense from both economic and business perspectives – a prudent demonstration of an "all-of-the-above" energy policy and a model for island and rural communities around the world.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Amy M. W. Turner
CEO, Fox Islands Electric Cooperative (FIEC) / Fox Islands Wind (FIW)
66 Main Street, Vinalhaven, ME 04863

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Georgia Transmission Corporation, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration’s priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration’s goals of American energy dominance.

Georgia Transmission Corporation is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

RUS New ERA Program: \$717,000,000 at 2% loan

The New ERA loan funding from RUS will enable Georgia Transmission Corporation (GTC) to enhance the resiliency and stability of Georgia’s grid infrastructure while supporting the development of new transmission systems to meet the state’s growing energy demands. This affordable funding will empower GTC to continue delivering reliable, cost-effective service to its 38 members and their consumer-members. Additionally, GTC projects an annual savings of \$24.2 million for its members, benefiting consumer-members across Georgia and advancing the Administration’s goal of “Unleashing American Energy” in a cost-efficient manner.

America’s electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration’s commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA’s rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hampton
CEO, Georgia Transmission Corporation
1979 Lakeside Parkway, Tucker, Georgia 30084

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Golden Valley Electric Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Golden Valley Electric Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

New ERA - Transmission, BESS, Wind: \$273,000,000

We were awarded over \$206 million in 0% interest loans, \$67 million of which can be awarded in grants following project completion.

- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS): Construction of a 46 megawatt (MW) / 92 megawatt-hour (MWh) BESS in Fairbanks, Alaska
- Transmission Loop and Substation Construction and Upgrades: Construction of 64 miles of transmission lines, the addition of two new substations, and upgrades to GVEA's existing North Pole Industrial Substation to reliably interconnect large-scale variable generation onto Alaska's unique grid
- Healy Unit 2 Stranded Asset Refinancing: Should GVEA move forward with this award, Healy Unit 2 will be retired and become a stranded asset. The date of retirement would be negotiated as part of any final award agreement. The refinancing of the debt at 0% interest would provide cost savings to re-invest in other projects associated with GVEA's New ERA application. The new transmission look is critical for the stability of the GVEA electric system, especially if adding non-dispatchable resources. The BESS would be needed to regulate the additional wind energy in addition to the existing wind and solar resources that currently exist on the system.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Travis Million
CEO, Golden Valley Electric Association
758 Illinois St., Fairbanks, AK 99701

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Golden Valley Electric Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Golden Valley Electric Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

PACE - Solar + BESS: \$100,000,000

We were awarded a \$100 million loan with \$60 million of this loan amount reduced through loan forgiveness.

- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS): Construction of a 46 megawatt (MW) / 92 megawatt-hour (MWh) BESS in Fairbanks, Alaska, interconnecting at GVEA's existing Wilson Substation
- Substation Upgrades: Enhancements to the Nenana Substation to support a 16 MW solar Power Purchase Agreement with Nenana Solar Farm, LLC
- 24.9kV Express Distribution Circuit: Installation of a half-mile long circuit to connect the Nenana Solar Farm to the Nenana Substation. The BESS is critical to the project in order to regulate existing non-dispatchable generation in the very sensitive Alaska "grid" aka the Railbelt transmission system.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Travis Million
CEO, Golden Valley Electric Association
758 Illinois St., Fairbanks, AK 99701

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Grand Valley Rural Power Lines, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Grand Valley Rural Power Lines, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Sunny River Renewables (PPA): \$10,778,182

Grand Valley Rural Power Lines, Inc. (GVP) was awarded a \$10,778,182 New ERA grant for its Sunny River Renewables project to stabilize electricity costs and provide a resilient and reliable energy source for vulnerable rural residents in the cooperative's service territory on Colorado's Western Slope. The funding will allow GVP – Colorado's oldest cooperative and one of the oldest west of the Mississippi, to purchase enough low-cost, locally-produced electricity (26 megawatts) to power more than one-third of the 17,000 households it serves. With the grant award, GVP's rural residents will see a reduction in power costs of more than \$700,000 per year for 15 years. Grand Valley Rural Power Lines will purchase the electricity from the Garnet Mesa agrivoltaics solar generation facility situated a few miles south of its service territory. This farmer-friendly power source will serve as a much-needed bridge to help meet our consumers' electricity needs as President Trump unleashes American energy. This investment in rural American energy production will quadruple its impact on the economy. For every federal dollar provided to secure America's energy dominance, Grand Valley Power will invest three more dollars in the western Colorado economy. The Garnet Mesa facility is under construction and has already created 300 rural Colorado jobs. Upon completion, the resource will be a key local component in our power portfolio, providing a critical boost in resiliency. The energy investment will ensure that we can meet the growing energy needs of our existing consumer base, as well as new businesses, industries and affordable housing communities that would strengthen our rural economy. Based on executed commitments from the USDA, Grand Valley Rural Power Lines has in turn committed to purchasing the power. If the

federal funds are pulled back and the cooperative is required to find replacement power, it will cost rural Colorado constituents more money to meet their energy needs. Grand Valley Rural Power Lines' critical Sunner River Renewables project aligns with President Trump's executive order to Unleash American Energy. It will restore American prosperity to a vulnerable rural region of the American West and help protect our country's economic security. It is an investment in making America great.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Thomas Walch
CEO, Grand Valley Rural Power Lines, Inc.
845 22 Road, Grand Junction, CO 81505

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Great River Energy, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Great River Energy is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Four Utility Scale Wind Projects, Twenty Nine Distribution Connected Solar Projects, One Transmission Connected Solar Project, and Advanced Demand Response Management System Software: \$793,000,000

These are good projects that round out our power supply portfolio that delivers reliable, affordable energy to Great River Energy's member-owner cooperatives. The funding is crucial to move these projects along at the pace required to meet increasing demand, load growth, economic development activity, and tend to the needs of the homeowners, businesses, manufacturers, and farmers our member-owners serve. These domestic power supply projects enable significant local load growth such as data centers and economic development opportunities, while maintaining affordable and reliable electricity. The funding provides certainty and clarity of downward rate pressure by adding this portfolio of projects, representing a 4% annual wholesale rate savings over the next 20 years.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

David Saggau
CEO, Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Blvd N., Maple Grove, MN 55369

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



**HARNEY ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Harney Electric Cooperative, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Harney Electric Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

5MW Solar Farm: \$13,325,000

The funding is to construct a 5MW solar farm to produce power to serve the cooperatives members. Our cooperative serves a below-average income area of rural Oregon and Nevada which needs to lower its purchased power costs and stabilize part of our rising cost of energy.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Fred Flippence
General Manager, Harney Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 587, Hines, OR 97738

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Highline Electric Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Highline Electric Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Champion, Fairfield and West Plains Solar Projects: \$6,508,751 Budget Authority

Financing includes \$4,563,847 in grant funding, \$3,108,117 in 0% loans and \$3,281,269 in 2% loans. The investment will lower rates for all of our consumers in Northeastern Colorado and Southwestern Nebraska.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Dennis Herman
General Manager, Highline Electric Association
1300 South Interocean Avenue, Holyoke, CO 80734

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration’s priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration’s goals of American energy dominance.

Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Kenai Renewable Energy Storage (KRES): \$100,000,000

Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc. utilizes a fleet of natural gas-fired generators to meet approximately 88% of the energy needs of its 25,000 member owners on Alaska’s Kenai Peninsula. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”) tracks the availability of natural gas in the Cook Inlet region and has consistently forecasted a shortfall that is now expected to begin as early as 2027. Expensive, imported natural gas is expected to close the supply gap. A vital part of AEEC’s strategic plan is the installation of a 45 MW 4-hour BESS to enable the diversification of its generation resources and reduce its dependence on natural gas. The \$100M PACE loan with 60% loan forgiveness awarded to AEEC on June 26, 2024 provided for the Battery System necessary to regulate enough intermittent renewable energy to reduce AEEC’s natural gas requirement by up to 1.75 billion cubic feet per year. The PACE program provides AEEC with the opportunity to diversify its generation portfolio and to deliver energy security to its rural member-owners.

America’s electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration’s commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA’s rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Bradley P. Janorschke
General Manager, Alaska Electric & Energy Cooperative, Inc. (a subsidiary of Homer Electric Association)
3977 Lake Street, Homer, AK 99603

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Hoosier Energy), I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Hoosier Energy) is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Hoosier Energy Electric Cooperative U403 Grant: \$676,796,440

Hoosier Energy's obligated New ERA award assures increased reliability of the electric grid and helps to hold the line on affordability for our members. The award also provides increased energy security with diversification of our power supply portfolio and the addition of nuclear energy. Hoosier Energy's New ERA award delivers funding for critical baseload power from the Palisades Nuclear Plant in Covert, Michigan. Approximately 86% of the New ERA award provides a matching grant for our partnership with Wolverine Power to secure the output from the world's first restart of a decommissioned nuclear plant through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Our PPA also provides the confidence needed by Holtec International, the plant's owner, to move forward with the development of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMRs) being planned for the site. Hoosier Energy and Wolverine Power hold the rights to power generated from those planned SMRs, which are on track to be among the first fully operational SMRs in American history. The certainty required by Hoosier Energy, Wolverine Power, and Holtec International to continue making these investments is bolstered by continued federal support through the New ERA program and awards like ours. The Palisades PPA plays an important role in the development of Hoosier Energy's generation portfolio moving forward. As part of our latest Long Range Resource Plan, Hoosier Energy sold a baseload coal power plant, Merom Generating Station, in Sullivan County, Indiana. Rather than close the plant due to increasing costs and higher risk, we successfully transferred the facility to Hallador Energy Company, a vertically integrated Independent Power Producer based in Terre Haute, Indiana. The transfer of Merom allowed Hoosier Energy to purchase a reduced portion

of the plant's output and for the plant to continue operations into the future. Since being awarded a New ERA grant, Hoosier Energy has also moved forward with additional generation investments. We recently finalized the acquisition of another baseload natural gas plant, the St. Joseph Energy Center in New Carlisle, Indiana. Our joint ownership also allows for the doubling of the plant's capacity in years ahead if needed. This decision, like those supported by our New ERA award, position Hoosier Energy and our members as leaders in the energy industry and partners in the Trump Administration's Unleashing American Energy strategy. Hoosier Energy's New ERA award allows us the freedom to invest even more in what America needs: an affordable, reliable, and resilient electric grid. As a nonprofit electric cooperative, the award's benefits lead to direct benefits to our members, including lowering wholesale power costs to our members by nearly \$35 million per year.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Donna Walker
CEO, Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Hoosier Energy)
2501 S. Cooperative Way, Bloomington, IN 47403

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Inland Power and Light Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Inland Power and Light Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Ponderosa Solar and Cloudwalker Wind: \$227,882,710

Inland Power and Light has sustained year-on-year rapid load growth, which is expected to continue. The federal hydropower system has been fully allocated and generation resources are in high demand. As Washington State's largest cooperative, Inland also must meet aggressive carbon goals from the state, including 100% carbon neutrality by 2030. Inland serves members in 15 counties in Washington and Idaho and our members consist of rural communities, agricultural communities and federally recognized tribes. The New ERA funds offer Inland the opportunity to procure long-term energy and associated capacity, which complies with state renewable goals in a more cost-effective manner. This benefit is passed on directly to our members as a not-for-profit cooperative. The absence of New ERA funding would result in a nearly 20% increase in Inland's cost of energy over 20 years. Our members are seeking rate relief and resilient and reliable energy services. Upholding the obligation of New ERA funds is critical to our local economy.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Jasen Bronec
CEO, Inland Power and Light Cooperative
10110 W. Hallett Rd., Spokane, WA 99224-7435

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Inside Passage Electric Cooperative (IPEC), I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Inside Passage Electric Cooperative (IPEC) is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Water Supply Creek Hydroelectric Project: \$7,307,125

IPEC intends to use the grant and loan funds authorized in this award to construct a 350 kW run-of-river hydropower project near Hoonah, Alaska. IPEC is the certificated electric provider for Hoonah, Alaska as well as four other micro grid communities in Rural Southeast Alaska. The community of Hoonah is an islanded micro grid that currently relies on high cost diesel fuel for electricity generation which leads to high energy costs in these remote communities. Construction for this project is expected to take 2 years.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Brandon Shaw
CEO, Inside Passage Electric Cooperative (IPEC)
Inside Passage Electric Cooperative, PO Box 210149, Auke Bay, AK 99821

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Kauai Island Utility Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Kauai Island Utility Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Utility Solar Grid Forming Technology (USGFT) - \$24,375,000.00 and AES West Kauai Energy Project, LLC - \$100,000,000.00

KIUC and its 35,000 members stand to benefit significantly from two projects that have been awarded funds under the PACE program. The first project is titled Utility Solar Grid Forming Technology (USGFT), which will add battery energy storage systems (BESS) to three of KIUC's existing utility-scale solar facilities. USGFT will alleviate grid challenges resulting from expanded solar resource contribution and fossil generation displacement. All solar power comes to the grid via inverters. The grid forming inverters with fast-response battery energy storage system (BESS) can far exceed the 110-150% rated output of legacy inverters, keeping the grid operational in the split second between the fault occurring and electrical protection engaging to isolate the fault. As Kaua'i's grid becomes more renewable in compliance with state law, and conventional units are increasingly idled under the 100% renewable dispatch, the utilization of grid-forming inverters and BESS is critical to maintaining reliability. The second project that would benefit from PACE funding is the AES West Kauai Energy Project, LLC. The new solar and storage facility that would be built by AES with these funds will displace the use of 5.9 million gallons of diesel per-year and will save KIUC members roughly \$370 million over the life of the 25-year Power Purchase Agreement between KIUC and AES Hawaii. KIUC's renewable generation has increased from 10% to as high as 70% over the past 10 years, and during that time KIUC's rates have gone from the highest in the state to the lowest in the state. Both of these projects will support that trend.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

David J. Bissell
CEO, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative
4463 Pahee Street, Suite 1, Lihue, Hawaii 96766

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

The Pathways Project: \$231,000,000

The Pathways Project is critical in delivering much needed electric capacity and long duration storage (LDS) during wildfire events. This project would guarantee critical infrastructure such as water, wastewater, communications and the electric grid are functional during these events while safeguarding the public. Creating greenfields from brownfields and converting non-potable water into an energy supply and creating local jobs that will stimulate the economy and enhance economic growth and development in the area. This project is necessary to ensure that we have adequate, reliable and affordable power in our cooperative service territory today and well into the future.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Luis A. Reyes Jr.
CEO, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative
118 Cruz Alta Rd. Taos, NM 87571

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of La Plata Electric Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

La Plata Electric Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Sunnyside Phase 2: \$13,416,450

In March 2024, La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) based in Durango, Colorado, was awarded \$13,416,450, covering 75% of total project costs under a 20-year loan term, for the Sunnyside Phase II Storage and Generation Project. LPEA will contribute the remaining \$4,472,150 to complete the project. This initiative will provide affordable, reliable energy to all LPEA members, including rural and tribal communities. The project consists of a 10 MW / 40 MWh battery energy storage system and a 5 MW expansion of an adjacent solar array. Southwest Colorado faces energy generation challenges due to the variability of renewables, which cannot fully meet winter and evening peak demands. These cost and grid resiliency limitations have restricted regional growth and deterred new industry investments. While this area has traditionally relied on agriculture and ranching, economic diversification is critical to support emerging manufacturing, commercial, and tech industries that provide essential jobs. Localized energy storage and generation will ensure LPEA meets long-term capacity needs while fostering regional economic growth. The Sunnyside Phase II site is optimally located on LPEA-owned land designated for this purpose, adjacent to an existing solar array. Project readiness is well advanced with an environmental assessment report in final review, preliminary design and engineering completed including interconnection and substation layout, right-of-way and easement negotiations completed in coordination with the local water district and gas company as well as community engagement plans established with local government, neighboring properties, and the public LPEA has used the time since the grant award to ensure full project readiness and is prepared to begin work immediately. Completion of

Sunnyside Phase II is essential to stabilizing energy costs during LPEA's transition to power supply independence in 2026. The project will deliver long-term benefits of lower energy costs, enhanced grid resilience, and locally sourced power, making its execution key for LPEA.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Chris Hansen
CEO, La Plata Electric Association
45 Stewart St, Durango, CO 81303

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Lake Country Power, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Lake Country Power is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

LCP Load Management Modernization: \$1,231,964

This New ERA investment will be used for Lake Country Power to modernize its demand side management system with up to 50 megawatts (depending on the season) of dispatchable load as part of a virtual power plant in rural Minnesota. This will provide needed capacity for roughly 13,000 homes during peak energy times. Participation in the virtual power plant aligns member-owners with the wholesale market and provides opportunities to secure additional capacity. It is estimated that Lake Country Power's virtual power plant will save members \$250,000 per month during the summer and \$700,000 per month during the winter.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Mark Bakk
General Manager, Lake Country Power
8535 Park Ridge Drive, Mountain Iron, MN 55768

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Midwest Electric, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Midwest Electric is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Solar and Storage Projects: \$16,900,000

The PACE program funding is critical to Midwest Electric as we seek to help create more generating capacity to contribute to the United State's energy dominance. The funding will also allow us to keep our rates as low as possible for our members. As a cooperative, Midwest Electric is owned by the members that we serve and any benefits earned by Midwest, including reduced costs and is a direct benefit to our members.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Jayson Bishop
General Manager, Midwest Electric
104 Washington Avenue, Grant, Nebraska 69140

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

New Era - Great River Energy: \$33,655,406

This project will enable solar to reach the rural parts of Minnesota. This is critical for Minnesota's 2040 Clean Energy Plan and for the membership to have the opportunity for carbon-free alternative energy. With this funding, MVEC is looking to partner with our G&T (Great River Energy) to build eight solar projects in three counties in MN.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Marvin Denzer
CEO, Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative
125 Minnesota Valley Electric Drive, Jordan, MN 55352

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Minnkota Power Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Minnkota Power Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Project Tundra: \$317.5 million in budget authority. \$559.6 million in funding available to Minnkota.

Project Tundra is a world-leading carbon capture and storage initiative that strengthens coal's role in America's energy future and unleashes U.S. energy dominance. With up to \$400 million in essential funding from the New ERA program, this project will deploy cutting-edge technology to capture and permanently store 4 million tons of CO₂ annually – ensuring America's vast coal resources remain a powerful force in the energy sector. Without this funding, a critical opportunity to enhance domestic energy production and safeguard grid reliability could be lost. By using Project Tundra as a blueprint, America can regain the leadership role in the world for clean coal technology. We can continue to maximize the use of coal reserves while using advanced technology to keep its power supply strong, stable and secure. Beyond power generation, the project delivers significant economic and strategic advantages. Important research and development continues in North Dakota's Bakken oil formation, and we are getting closer to using captured CO₂ for Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR), increasing domestic oil production and reducing dependence on foreign energy. EOR is already taking place in traditional oil wells, but unlocking the Bakken can dramatically increase production recovery. Projects like this would strengthen U.S. energy security, create jobs and fuel economic growth in energy-producing regions. Project Tundra's success will reinforce U.S. leadership in energy production, demonstrating to the world that coal remains a cornerstone of American strength and prosperity. Approximately \$159.6 million in New ERA funding is also supporting the efficient and cost-effective integration of the Flickertail

Wind Farm into Minnkota's power supply mix. The 370-megawatt (MW) project is being developed in North Dakota by PRC Wind, which will own and operate the facility, while Minnkota will purchase all energy generated under a long-term agreement. Flickertail Wind Farm embodies the cooperative spirit, originating from a grassroots effort led by local community members and their economic development board. The project is expected to provide approximately \$100 million into the local economy and create 300 jobs during construction.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Mac McLennan
CEO, Minnkota Power Cooperative
5301 32nd Ave. South, Grand Forks, ND, 58201

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Mountain Parks Electric, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Mountain Parks Electric, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

New ERA Power Purchase Agreement (PPA): \$100,321,532

Mountain Parks Electric, Inc. (MPEI) has been taking action to stabilize rates in an effort to provide safe, affordable and reliable energy for our rural membership for some time. With the continued partnership of the USDA, we will be able to achieve these important goals. We are working with a new energy provider, Guzman Energy, on a strategy to enhance the resilience, reliability, and affordability of our rural electric system. Through a long-term PPA, the USDA grant-only funding will be in service to our member owners – farmers, ranchers, hard-working families, and small and large industrial customers. The USDA New ERA funding will provide critical support to our remote rural communities by stabilizing energy costs, offering a rare and invaluable opportunity over the next 20 years and will enhance economic resilience in areas where such funding options are few and far between.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Virginia Harman
General Manager, Mountain Parks Electric, Inc.
321 W. Agate Ave., PO Box 170, Granby, CO 80446

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Nebraska Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Nebraska Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

NEGT Renewable: \$200,000,000

The New ERA \$200M grant funding will be used to meet existing and unprecedented load growth seen across Nebraska, through the utilization of new renewables projects. This will positively impact 84 of the 93 counties in Nebraska, including low-income customers and tribal lands.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Darin L. Bloomquist,
General Manager, Nebraska Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc.
2472 18th Ave, Columbus, NE 68601

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the General Manager of Pointe Coupee Electric Membership Corporation, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Pointe Coupee Electric Membership Corporation is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Mundu Solar: \$10,527,193

PC Electric has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$10,527,193 that will be used dollar for dollar to directly reduce the costs of PC Electric rate payers as ordered by the Louisiana Public Service Commission. Without the grant, PC Electric rate payers will face higher electricity prices due to the loss of the offset. The program awarding the grant is only awarded to rural cooperatives.

1. PC Electric: PC Electric is a member owned rural electric cooperative organized and existing under the Electric Cooperative Act of the State of Louisiana (R.S. 12:401, et seq.). PC Electric's customers are the owners of the cooperative.

- PC Electric is regulated by the Louisiana Public Service Commission.
- PC Electric provides electricity to its approximately 10,700 members in the following parishes: Pointe Coupee, Iberville and West Baton Rouge.
- The majority of the area served by PC Electric is rural with the majority of our load serving residential consumer-members.

2. Solar Contract: PC Electric has a power purchase agreement with Mundu Solar, LLC to provide energy and capacity from a physical generation resource that will be constructed in Pointe Coupee Parish.

- The solar generation resource is fully permitted by Pointe Coupee Parish in accordance with the parish ordinances and is currently under construction.

- There are three Louisiana utilities with contracts for energy and capacity from Mondu including PC Electric, Concordia Electric Cooperative and Entergy.

3. New ERA Grant: PC Electric started the process to apply for the New ERA grant in September 2023 with the final approval in late 2024.

- The amount of the grant is \$10,527, 193.
- The Grant is structured as a direct reimbursement of a portion of the PC Electric monthly charges received pursuant to its Power Purchase Agreement with Mondu Solar.
- The Grant also requires PC Electric to develop and execute a community benefit plan. PC Electric's community benefit plan is designed to support and promote programs at the University of Louisiana Lafayette EESE Center.

4. LPSC: As a regulated utility, PC Electric was required to submit the Mondu Solar Power Purchase Agreement to the Louisiana Public Service Commission for approval, which was docketed in U-36515 and approved by LPSC Order No. U-36515-A.

- The LPSC Order specifically requires "One hundred percent of any Rural Utilities Service ("RUS") grants received by PC Electric based on the Mondu Solar Facility will flow directly to PC Electric members."
- PC Electric officially notified the LPSC of the New ERA grant award via formal filing in LPSC Docket U-36515. 5. Rate Impact: The New ERA grant will directly reduce PC Electric member rates by approximately 2% for the next 20 years. Without the grant, PC Electric rate payers will lose the direct dollar for dollar offset and will face higher electricity prices.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Craig Magruder
General Manager, Pointe Coupee Electric Membership Corporation
2506 False River Drive, New Roads, LA 70760

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Poudre Valley REA, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration’s priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration’s goals of American energy dominance.

Poudre Valley REA is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

PACE + New ERA Funding: \$55 million

Poudre Valley REA was awarded both New ERA and PACE Funding totaling \$55 million in grants and zero interest loans. The New ERA funds will allow us to secure a low-cost generation Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) and develop a Virtual Power Plant of batteries at substations. The PACE funding will allow for the creation of two utility solar projects including one community solar project as well as battery storage at the projects. Programs like New ERA and PACE provide critical funding to help keep our electric rates low, strengthen the grid, reduce wildfire risk, and enhance an America-first energy approach while taking huge strides towards putting rural Americans on equal footing with those in urban areas. Federal funding directly reduces costs for electric cooperatives. Without this support, significant rate increases become inevitable, paid for on the backs of rural citizens — the families, farmers, and ranchers that not-for-profit electric cooperatives serve, not shareholders or investors. Federal investments also play a pivotal role in prioritizing the electric cooperative’s abilities to meet the growing demand for electricity, specifically the return to a booming oil and gas sector. Supporting an all-of-the-above, economically sound, America-first energy approach allows electric cooperatives to build reliable, affordable energy infrastructure. We need federal grant funding to keep rural America strong and independent. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important and impactful funding. We urge your support for New ERA and PACE, which will provide long-term benefits to rural America.

America’s electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration’s commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA’s rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Jeff Wadsworth
CEO, Poudre Valley REA
7649 REA Pkwy, Fort Collins, CO 80528

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of San Miguel Electric Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

San Miguel Electric Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

San Miguel Solar and Battery: \$1,438,000,000

San Miguel Electric Cooperative is a generation and transmission cooperative in South Texas that provides electricity to nine distribution cooperatives. The cooperative service area spans 47 counties in the region. The operations involve mining lignite coal locally as fuel for a 391MW unit. The unit began operations in 1982 and is nearing the end of its useful life. In January 2025, the project to install 400MW photovoltaic solar generation and 200MWh battery energy storage received a commitment letter. The project award will help San Miguel transition to new technologies and expand the capability to provide South Texans with reliable and affordable electricity far into the future. The low-interest loans provided through the New ERA program will allow the cooperative to support the region's ongoing growth and the development of data center loads. The estimated benefit to consumer-members far exceeds the amount spent on the project. The cooperative estimates a \$2,000,000,000 saving over the project's life that will benefit our members directly through lower energy rates. The stranded cost financing is critical to the cooperative's long-term success. It allows the cooperative to spread the cost of decommissioning over several years, alleviating the need for substantial rate increases for cost recovery. On behalf of the San Miguel members and management, I would like to thank the USDA for the opportunity to participate in the New ERA Program. Our team has diligently researched options for new energy, including a geothermal pilot project located on-site. We are proud to present a project that we believe will provide affordable, reliable power to many rural Texans.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Craig Courter
CEO, San Miguel Electric Cooperative
6200 FM 3387, Christine, Texas 78012

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of San Miguel Power Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

San Miguel Power Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

SMPA Ute Peak Standard Solar 20 MW (aka Naturita Solar): \$9,867,760

This project is a critical step in helping our coal-affected community to build resilience and better control of our energy future while ensuring responsible development that aligns with local vision, values and priorities. The New ERA funding is critical to coordinating the deployment of this project with the broader regional efforts of electric grid reliability and unleashing local American energy. America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Brad Zaporski
CEO, San Miguel Power Association
170 W. 10th Ave PO Box 817 Nucla, CO 81424

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Seminole New ERA Projects: \$1.18 Billion

As a leader of Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. a not-for-profit electric generation and transmission cooperative serving nine-member distribution cooperatives who in turn serve approximately two million consumers in 42 of Florida's 67 counties, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical programs align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities. The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goal of American energy dominance. My electric cooperative is partnering with USDA under the Empowering Rural America (New ERA) program to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy. USDA's Empowering Rural America (New ERA) program facilitated by the USDA's Rural Utility Service (RUS) provided Seminole with a unique opportunity to review our generation portfolio and consider new technology additions that provide fuel diversity, resilience, and grid modernization in a responsible, cost effective and efficient manner, as well as provide additional means to serve our projected load growth. The New ERA program accelerates Seminole's investments in solar generation and battery storage resources in a way that complements our existing generation portfolio, including our 2023 addition of a 2x1 combined cycle facility, our 2024 acquisition of a peaking generation facility, and the 1x1 combined cycle

facility we currently have under construction. Seminole's awarded budget authority has resulted in the obligation by the RUS of approximately \$1.18 billion in grants and loans, strengthening grid reliability, affordability, and energy resilience across the state. The significance of these projects across North-central Florida extends beyond energy production—they ensure that both the direct and indirect benefits remain within the communities where they operate—many of which are among the most rural in the state. The projects are expected to create an estimated 3,400 short- and long-term jobs and provide sustained increases in local tax revenues, further strengthening these rural economies. In alignment with New ERA's objectives, Seminole is developing Community Benefits Plans and Farmer Benefits Plans to drive additional local investments in economic development, workforce training and skills, and employment opportunities.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Lisa S. Johnson
CEO, Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc.
16313 Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL 33618

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Seven States Power Corporation, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration’s priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration’s goals of American energy dominance.

Seven States Power Corporation is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

TN 68 – N. Alabama Utility-Scale Solar Facility: \$415,000,000 loan + \$ 24,745,500 grant = \$439,745,500 total

Seven States Power Corporation (Seven States) proposes to develop, construct, and operate a 250MW solar facility in Lawrence County, Alabama, known as the TN-68-North Alabama Utility-Scale Solar Facility (“Seven States Solar Facility”). Seven States will own and operate the facility, selling 100% of the generated power to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) under a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). This project helps ease the State of Energy Emergency by delivering low-cost power supply to a region that continues to see exponential growth in demand. The USDA’s New ERA program invests in cooperatives like Seven States who will advance the Trump Administration’s energy agenda by quickly building low-cost energy generation to support the nation as it competes on a global scale. Once completed, Seven States Solar Facility will deliver 250MWs to a region covering Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia that will power approximately 113,000 homes, numerous businesses, and generate additional low-cost power for the attraction and retention of economic development initiatives to the region. Its construction will create over 100 jobs in the near term. The collaborative funding structure will deliver a purchased power rate 55% lower than a project using private lending, and for every kWh produced, it is a savings of nearly three cents (\$0.03/kWh). This project is shovel-ready. Once clearances and interconnections are in place, construction is six months. Financially, the project will benefit over 10 million ratepayers across the seven-state TVA service area by delivering affordable power to promote economic growth and job creation. The estimated total

project cost is \$440 million. The program's interest savings and grant funds will reduce costs by over \$340 million. Traditional financing would increase the PPA rate by \$0.043/kWh, making the project financially unviable under TVA's least-cost model for affordable and reliable power. Without the USDA New ERA program, Seven States would be unable to pursue this project and the ratepayers would lose the opportunity to receive this low-cost power. Leveraging USDA's zero-interest loan support, Seven States can quickly deliver power supply in alignment with President Trump's vision of energy dominance for the U.S. Moreover, the program requires participants to meet Buy America criteria, ensuring domestic resources are utilized. The proposed solar panels for the Seven States Solar Facility will be manufactured in the same county in which they will be installed. Seven States Solar Facility has overwhelming support of both Alabama Senator Tommy Tuberville and Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, as well as numerous other federal and state officials. As the Southeast region continues to experience unprecedented growth, it is encountering a significant constraint on energy supply. With challenge comes opportunity, and for nearly 20 years, Seven States Power Corporation has been supporting energy supply by financing a utility-scale fossil-powered generation asset and distribution-scale reliability assets. Seven States is uniquely positioned to address our nation's State of Energy Emergency by both garnering support for and executing this project as part of an "all-of-the-above" approach to delivering much-needed low-cost power to residents and businesses throughout the Southeast region.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Betsey Kirk McCall
CEO, Seven States Power Corporation
P.O. Box 11128, Chattanooga, TN 37401

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Stearns Cooperative Electric Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Stearns Cooperative Electric Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

P44 – Load Management Modernization, P45 – Electric Vehicle Charger Program: \$9,750,000

With funding structured as a 25% grant and 75% low interest loan, these two projects will modernize our load management system, enabling us, in partnership with our generation and transmission company, Great River Energy (GRE), to harness thousands of individually controllable loads into a highly effective virtual power plant. Developing and implementing a virtual power plant is critical to managing energy demand levels, reducing power costs, maintaining long-term grid reliability and ultimately, keeping electric bills more affordable for Americans. This advanced system will allow us to maximize the use of existing household equipment and appliances, independent of electric power supply resource, to strengthen energy independence.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Matt O' Shea
CEO, Stearns Cooperative Electric Association
900 Kraft Dr SE, PO Box 40, Melrose, MN 56352

March 19, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Tri-State Responsible Energy Plan: New ERA: \$679,000,000

Tri-State's resource plan reflects an all-of-the-above strategy that ensures reliable power for our rural consumers by capitalizing on the abundant natural resources in our western region, from coal and hydropower to natural gas and solar. We intend to use our New ERA award, which consists almost exclusively of loans we will repay, to promote rural economic growth and domestic energy development through investment in over a dozen new electric generation and refinancing projects to meet growing energy demand. Tri-State is preparing to make our largest-ever electric generation investments in our 70-year history, and the New ERA Program is integral to reliably and affordably implementing this geographically and technologically diverse portfolio. Through New ERA, Tri-State will leverage our award into billions of dollars of investment to promote rural prosperity by reducing costs to consumers while ensuring electricity reliability with a portfolio that exceeds industry-leading standards for reliability and resilience. Our award is vital for ensuring that rural Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Wyoming are able to participate in the resource development necessary to meet the region's growing electricity demand. More importantly, New ERA makes it possible for our association to meet this need while ensuring reliability and affordability for rural farmers, ranchers, small towns, and families. America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Duane Highley
CEO, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
1100 West 116th Avenue, Westminster, CO 80234

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of United Power, Inc, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

United Power, Inc is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Reliability Revolution [GRRR Project]: \$261 Million

United Power is not the typical electric distribution cooperative. It left its long-standing wholesale power contract in May 2024 to create a more flexible and economical power portfolio for its members (oil and gas represents 40% of United Power's load). Utilizing multiple power purchase agreements, the cooperative curated a strategic portfolio of seven generation projects – included in its New ERA application – that will provide more than 760 megawatts of resources to its members by 2030. Four of those projects are already in place, delivering power to cooperative members and helping ensure availability and affordability. Importantly, these projects and the New ERA funds that support such projects which furthers the Trump Administration's goal for energy dominance, as well as help Colorado's oil and gas companies, many of whom are served by United Power, meet the state of Colorado's climate action plan and statutory mandates concerning electrification of operations and facilities. In addition to helping the new BNSF intermodal center, United Power's \$261 million grant will assist the cooperative in ensuring reliability of its service and continued investment in the diversified portfolio of power purchase agreements that includes coal, natural gas, and solar, for example. This portfolio allows United Power to achieve more flexibility in its power supply mix to ensure stability in energy prices and reliability for all its members.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Gabriel
CEO, United Power, Inc.
500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO 80643

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Valley Electric Association, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Valley Electric Association is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Vista Battery Storage Project and Fish Lake Battery Storage and Solar Project: \$80 million

Valley Electric serves its electric cooperative members in predominantly rural areas of Southern Nevada. The primary intent of the projects Valley Electric has proposed is providing reliable and affordable power. Utility-scale battery storage (36MW) is most of the project capacity proposed. The goal is to mitigate energy price volatility, strengthen grid resilience, and provide energy independence for our electric member-consumers. The Vista Storage Project will be in Pahrump, Nevada, serving all of Valley's members. The Battery Energy Storage System is engineered to be 35 MW with four hours of total storage capacity. It will address the "duck curve" by storing excess daytime power, keeping electricity affordable and reliable. The Fish Lake Valley Resiliency Project, located in Fish Lake Valley (near Dyer, Nevada), would allow Valley Electric to service its most rural and agricultural members with more affordable, reliable energy in an area of Nevada that is historically difficult to serve. The community of Fish Lake Valley is serviced by a long, single-source transmission line that crosses an area of extreme wildfire risk and, as a result, is liable for more frequent and sometimes severe outages. This project will utilize a solar footprint of 1MW powering a 1MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with the storage capacity capable of providing members of the Dyer community energy independence from outage events. We believe that our priorities of delivering affordable, independent, and reliable electricity for rural Nevadans will continue to align with the Trump Administration's goal of unleashing American energy.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Robby Hamlin
CEO, Valley Electric Association
Valley Electric Association, PO Box 237, Pahrump, NV 89041

March 16, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Wolverine Power Cooperative, I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Wolverine Power Cooperative is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

Palisades Nuclear Plant Restart: \$651 million

New ERA inspired Wolverine Power Cooperative to think boldly about its energy future. Wolverine engaged Holtec (Palisades Nuclear Plant owner) in 2023 and, in six months, negotiated a 30-year agreement to purchase (along with Hoosier Energy) the entire output from the plant. Palisades will be the first nuclear plant in the world to restart, and it will be operational by 2026. Palisades restart is vital to electric reliability in the Michigan region and will demonstrate a proven path to US energy dominance. The essential baseload energy produced at Palisades will power nearly 100 rural counties in Michigan and Indiana. The plant site will also host the first two Small Modular Reactors (Holtec design) slated for 2032. New ERA funding is critical for Wolverine Power to secure the majority of its long-term energy needs in an affordable, reliable and predictable manner. Palisades will support economic growth, tax base, and hundreds of high-paying jobs in our region.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Eric Baker
CEO, Wolverine Power Cooperative
10125 W. Watergate Rd., Cadillac, MI, 49601

March 20, 2025
The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Dear Secretary Rollins,

As the CEO of Yampa Valley Electric Association, Inc., I strongly request your support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's New ERA and PACE programs. These critical initiatives align with the Trump administration's priority to unleash American energy and will help electric cooperatives leverage diverse energy portfolios to reduce costs and meet the future energy demands of rural communities.

The selected projects will help electric cooperatives across the nation address growing power supply needs in rural areas by creating a more reliable power grid and reducing the future cost of energy. In short, they will help achieve the Trump administration's goals of American energy dominance.

Yampa Valley Electric Association, Inc. is partnering with USDA on the following project to keep electricity costs low and strengthen the rural American economy:

YVEA Project 1: \$49,656,600

This New ERA investment will help Yampa Valley Electric Association (YVEA) reduce the costs associated with procuring a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for an upcoming energy project. Overall, this investment will improve the efficiency of YVEA's power supply, stabilize energy costs for its members, and expand the cooperative's commitment to powering rural and underserved areas, ultimately contributing to lasting benefits that enhance the quality of life for those served.

America's electric cooperatives are critical partners in the Trump administration's commitment to jumpstart the American economy. Thank you for your support of USDA's rural energy programs.

Sincerely,

Scott Blecke
CEO, Yampa Valley Electric Association, Inc.
2211 Elk River Rd, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487