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Albemarle EMC REPRESENTATIVES CONVERGE ON CAPITOL HILL, DISCUSS ENERGY ISSUES WITH CONGRESS

Representatives from Albemarle EMC *recently* joined more than 120 North Carolina electric cooperative peers on Capitol Hill last week. With Congress poised to debate energy legislation, North Carolina's electric cooperative representatives wanted to personally discuss critical energy issues, including funding and regulation, with Sens. Richard Burr (R - NC) and Kay Hagan (D - NC), as well as representatives from every North Carolina district.

Albemarle EMC representatives urged Sens. Burr and Hagan to take a balanced approach to energy legislation – one that achieves real environmental goals without draining family budgets or further harming the economy. “Affordable energy legislation is important to our members, and we made sure our members’ voices were heard during our visit with our senators,” said Brad Furr, general manager of Albemarle EMC.

Albemarle EMC representatives also had a discussion of these issues with U.S. Reps. G.K. Butterfield and Walter B. Jones. The proposals before Congress could limit the emission of carbon dioxide from mobile and stationary sources in the United States. Regardless of whether Congress passes legislation, the Environmental Protection Agency has begun the process of regulating emissions, regulations that will take effect if Congress fails to act. “Allowing EPA to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from power plants would place additional financial burdens on our co-op members,” Furr said. “We told our members of Congress that we believe Congress is better suited to develop fair and balanced energy legislation that takes into account the broader impact on the economy, consumers, and the benefits to the environment.”

North Carolina's electric cooperatives collectively provide energy to more than 2.5 million people across 93 of the state's 100 counties. The 26 cooperatives, including Albemarle EMC, are private, independent and not-for-profit entities that have long supported responsible stewardship of the environment balanced with providing safe, affordable, and reliable energy.

