



Powerlines

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Trump executive order may help protect diversity of PowerSouth's energy mix

President Trump's Energy Independence Executive Order signed in March directed the EPA to review the previous administration's Clean Power Plan (CPP), which would have made it very difficult to continue using coal generation resources. While not immediately eliminating the plan, the order represents a positive first step toward repeal and replacement. The CPP, proposed by the EPA in June 2014, was part of former President Obama's initiative to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in the U.S.

Many industry participants believe the EPA overstepped its authority under the Clean Air Act to fundamentally change the way electricity is generated and proposed unprecedented changes, including "outside the fence" measures only Congress has

the authority to impose. The CPP rule as currently written adversely impacts PowerSouth's efforts to control costs and maintain reliability through a diverse generation mix that includes coal.

"That's something PowerSouth is serious about," said PowerSouth Environmental Services Manager Keith Stephens. "We've worked hard and invested hundreds of millions of dollars to meet a myriad of environmental regulations at the Lowman Power Plant."

The recent executive order is the first step towards ensuring the EPA fulfills its proper role: regulating emissions from existing generation methods within the authority given by Congress in the Clean Air Act.

"The executive order is not a miracle cure; it will probably take most of Trump's first term to repeal and replace the CPP, but we're heading in the right direction," Stephens said. "It's definitely not the EPA's job to tell us what fuel we use to produce electricity. It's their job to tell us what the standards are as we produce it."

Changes in regulations or the economics of coal and natural gas will continue to influence the energy market. But PowerSouth will continue to work to provide a low-cost, reliable and diverse power supply mix to meet our member systems' needs.

"What we're hoping for is a reworking of the CPP that retains coal as a viable option," said Stephens. "This is important to PowerSouth, its members

and the communities we serve. We'll be working hard with this administration and utilities across the U.S., and we fully expect to get that done." ■

Watch the following message from NRECA CEO Jim Matheson regarding the Clean Power Plan.



To scan this code, download a QR reader from the Apple App Store or the Android Market on your smart phone.

PowerSouth makes its voice heard in Washington

PowerSouth employees traveled to Washington, D.C., in April to support the cooperative's legislative priorities at the NRECA's 2017 Legislative Conference.

More than 2,000 electric cooperative leaders from across the country attended the annual conference, where they learned about key issues faced by rural utilities and met with members of Congress.

This year, delegates called on lawmakers to support investments in rural infrastructure, reduce barriers to maintenance and expansion, and renew tax credits for geothermal, nuclear and other generation technologies.

For more information about ACRE, contact Wanda Woods, PowerSouth Support Services Coordinator, at ext. 3369. ■

PowerSouth's 2017 ACRE delegates were: (front row) Cathy King (Finance and Accounting), Bill King, Lisa Dodd (Finance and Accounting) and Melissa Talley; (middle row) Ray Smith (Lowman), Brenda Smith, Lisa Harrison and Wayne Harrison (Lowman); (back row) Leigh Grantham (Member Services and Communications), Baynard Ward (Communications) and Beth Woodard (Legal and Corporate Affairs).



May is Electrical Safety Month

PowerSouth stresses the importance of safety, not only during May, but 365 days a year. This month is set aside to increase awareness of safety, both at work and at home.



Wiregrass Electric Cooperative's Chief Operating Officer Brad Kimbro presents Mary Hatcher with a letter accepting the WEC-produced video "Voices of the Elders" into the Library of Congress archives, where it will be preserved for future generations. Hatcher, 86, is the only living participant in the 2008 documentary.



Register to win a Couples Conference sponsorship

Want to learn more about the cooperative difference in Alabama? PowerSouth will sponsor one couple — 45 years of age or under — to attend the Alabama Council of Cooperatives' 42nd Co-op Couples Conference.

The sponsorship covers lodging, program expense and meals during the conference at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Orange Beach, Ala., July 17-19.

The conference is designed to give young couples a better understanding of the co-op way of doing business. Attendees will gain additional knowledge and insight into the economic and service opportunities afforded by co-ops. They will have the opportunity to learn how co-ops can benefit them in everyday life and exchange ideas, experiences and leadership needs.

The conference also allows cooperative personnel to learn what young couples are thinking so that they can better serve their needs.

Anyone interested in attending should contact Lisa Haney at ext. 3712 by Friday, May 26.



Escambia River EC (EREC) and PowerSouth partnered for the second year at the World of Possibilities and Skills USA expo. More than 3,000 students attended the event at Pensacola State College, where they participated in interactive exhibits demonstrating jobs in the energy industry.

A Real Face of Cancer

We all know someone who has or has had cancer. If it is someone close, you have shared their physical pain, their mental doubt and the many changes in their lives.

We fly cancer victims to cancer hospitals for treatment. We also help Pilots for Christ with their mission to fly cancer patients to cancer hospitals. (Pilots for Christ is a wonderful organization based in Monroeville that provides assistance to people in need – you should consider a contribution.) We get to know the victims and their families. We share their pain and suffering. We have learned they are not characters in a story. They are real people with real lives, real families and real dreams. It hurts to watch them as their hopes ebb, their dreams die and their families suffer.

This month I share the words of Joshua Adair, the husband of Rhonda Adair, a cancer victim. He sent me the following report after months of treatment – as Rhonda was being transported home from MD Anderson after a last attempt to save her life.

We came to know Rhonda last fall when she was diagnosed with a rare aggressive cancer. She was a beautiful young woman with a family and a bright future. She was also pregnant. Anna Parker was delivered at 33 weeks of gestation. After undergoing local treatment, Rhonda's cancer became resistant to current therapy. She was advised to go home and accept hospice, but Rhonda was a fighter. She went to MD Anderson to fight for her life on January 1.

Joshua's words:

"She is finally sleeping with pain under control for now. It was a rough day for her – having to be moved to different locations in order to get home. More movement today than in the last two weeks, it seems.

"The cab ride was awful. We hit at least 20 bumps or potholes, causing intense pain for her. The plane ride was great! It got bumpy there for a bit with a weather front coming in, but the pilots that have been flying us are top notch. They really take control as much as they can for the sick passengers they often carry. Those



guys really helped my wife and family, and I will never forget them. I won't mention their names for privacy sake, but they do a tremendous service to people who need.

"The future is unknown, yet I am thankful for every second with my wife and girls. I have some of the most wonderful family members who have taken up caring for my two girls, and I could never repay them. I have missed some time with my girls, especially Anna, but I have the rest of the time God gives me to make up for it.

"My two sisters-in-law already had enough stress caring for my girls, and I'm so thankful for them. My mother-in-law has been a machine! I can only imagine what she is feeling with her having to go through this. I tell you, if you want something done or need to light a fire under someone, then she's the one to see. How she kept herself together multitasking for 20 hours a day for months is beyond me. She was a workhorse for this family the last few months and also a rock when we were falling apart. She is a remarkable woman.

"My Mom and sister and the rest of the family on both sides who tirelessly

worked and organized and handled anything and everything back home – they are saints. We could not have been where we are if not for them. I am surrounded by some special people that I think deserve a lot more credit and praise for all they do than what they normally receive. And the people who came through today in a moment's notice – who donated and let us borrow things for Rhonda that we needed medically for her – thank you from all of my heart.

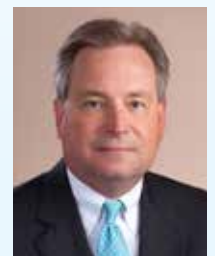
"I could go on and on about every little gesture of kindness to all of the donations and work put into a living hope, and I am sure I will in time. But this is what is on my mind right now. We asked God in the beginning to give us the best chance to fight this. He gave us a sea of people to make it all happen. A sea of hope."

Despite her family's and our hopes and prayers, the Lord took Rhonda home. She leaves her husband and two young daughters – one only months old. She leaves a caring and loving family. She leaves dreams of watching her girls grow into young women. She leaves a husband who must raise their girls without her. They will miss her as much as she will miss them.

The Lord must have a higher plan for her. That doesn't mean it doesn't hurt – really badly.

This is the season for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Do what you can. The face of cancer is very real.

I hope you have a good month. ■



Gary Smith
PowerSouth President and CEO

PowerSouth wins safe driving award

Liberty Mutual Insurance recently awarded PowerSouth the 2016 Gold Safety Award for Outstanding Safe Driving Performance.

The prestigious award was presented to PowerSouth during a recent safety luncheon at the Lowman Power Plant.

The cooperative was recognized by Liberty Mutual because of a reduction in incidence rates on PowerSouth vehicles in 2016. The cooperative utilizes a fleet of vehicles, ranging from compact cars to tractor trailers, says PowerSouth Safety Services Manager Buddy Manning.

Also, PowerSouth implemented a safe-driving program called Decision Driving, Manning says.

The program, developed by Liberty Mutual, was used to train all employees who drive motorized vehicles for PowerSouth.

The award recognizes PowerSouth's commitment to safety, which is listed first in the company's six core values. Other values include member relations, reliability, cost of service, community development and employee development. "PowerSouth's most important asset is its workforce, and we strive to maintain our impressive safety record," Manning says.

Liberty Mutual Insurance is part of the Boston-based Liberty Mutual Group, one of the largest property and casualty insurers in the United States. ■



PowerSouth was honored with the Liberty Mutual Insurance Award for Outstanding Safe Driving Performance. From left to right are Greg Martin and Art Roberson from Liberty Mutual; Robert Jernigan from A.J. Gallagher, PowerSouth's insurance broker; PowerSouth President and CEO Gary Smith; and PowerSouth Safety Services Manager Buddy Manning.



Employee Self Service coming to all PowerSouth locations

Employee Self Service is a useful tool that you can use to view your personal and payroll information at any time. Currently, headquarters employees can view their personal and payroll information via Employee Self Service. During 2017, Human Resources will be implementing access to Employee Self Service to employees at all PowerSouth locations.

When this is completed, HR will notify you by email or interoffice memo. Once this happens, you will be able to view your personal human resources- and payroll-related information on Oracle's E-Business Suite Applications.

Personal items that can be viewed through Employee Self Service include basic details such as name, marital status, birth date, employee number, mailing address and emergency contact information, as well as current benefit elections. You may also view your payroll information such as current and past payslips and W-2s.

Employees should be on the lookout for upcoming announcements regarding Employee Self Service. ■

Service anniversaries



Dianne Curry
T&D Engineering & Const.
39 years, May 1



Branson Williams
Fuels
35 years, May 3



Michael Byrd
Transmission O&M
33 years, May 21



Lisa Veasey
Planning, Reg. & Compliance
31 years, May 12



Teri Lowery
Transmission O&M
30 years, May 18



Gail Blackmon
Substation O&M
29 years, May 2



Flint Harrelson
T&D Technical Services
29 years, May 31



Michael Mitchell
Telecom Services
28 years, May 1



Earl Henderson
Comp. Info. Services
27 years, May 7



Cindy Bozeman
Finance & Accounting
27 years, May 19



Craig Kilpatrick
Comp. Info. Services
27 years, May 30



Lisa Haney
Communications
26 years, May 28



Tim Whatley
Legal Affairs & Compliance
23 years, May 2



Chuck Dutton
Transmission O&M
16 years, May 7



Waylon Dunn
Central Generation
16 years, May 14



Kenny Shiver
Central Generation
16 years, May 14



Michael Harkins
Central Generation
15 years, May 6



Terry Hall
Energy Services
15 years, May 13



Eric Copeland
Safety Services
15 years, May 28



James Taylor
Transmission O&M
13 years, May 17



Cory Bryan
T&D Eng. & Const.
11 years, May 8



Gary Goldman
Lowman
11 years, May 22



Carl Sherrouse
Transmission O&M
10 years, May 1



Tabitha Wiggins
Finance & Accounting
10 years, May 17



Josh Beverly
Substation O&M
9 years, May 12



T.J. Harrison
Substation O&M
9 years, May 19



Anna Stephens
Member Services
9 years, May 27



Blake Odom
Planning, Reg. & Compliance
6 years, May 16



Merrill Davis
Safety Services
6 years, May 26



Greg Bennett
Central Generation
5 years, May 15



Clay Carter
Central Generation
5 years, May 15



Neil Howell
Central Generation
5 years, May 15



Matthew Fowler
Central Generation
5 years, May 29



Thomas Smith
Central Generation
5 years, May 29



Wesley Pearce
Environmental
4 years, May 20



Mitch Pugh
Fuels
4 years, May 22



Kim Bowers
Human Resources
4 years, May 28



Charles Gunter
Telecom Services
3 years, May 12



Hunter Dubose
Telecom Services
3 years, May 19



Chris Dunbar
Communications
2 years, May 28



Johnny Wilson
Comp. Info. Services
1 year, May 23



BOARD MEETING

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 26.

Headquarters employees should wear business professional attire on board meeting days.

Comings and goings

Goodbye and good luck

Best wishes to **Victor Wyatt** upon his retirement March 30 after 39 years of service. His most recent position was Economic Development Funding Representative.

Victoria Veasey, Work Study in Human Resources Services, effective March 22.

Madeline Tomberlin, Work Study in Computer Information Services, effective March 23.

Devan McDuffie, Work Study at Central Generation, effective April 6.

Promotion

Congratulations to **Jennifer Brooks**, who was promoted from General Accountant II to General Accountant I in Financial Planning, effective April 9.

New arrivals

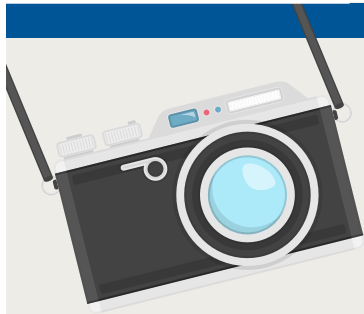
Congratulations to **Suzy Baker** (Accounting and Finance) on the birth of her first grandchildren, Perry Joseph and Adaline Grace on March 24. Perry weighed 4 lb. 13 oz. and was 18.25 inches long. Adaline weighed 5 lb. 12 oz. and was 19 inches long. Proud parents are Travis and Krista Armstrong.



PowerSouth's 2017 Covington County Relay For Life team raised \$11,650 to support the fight against cancer. Employees and families attended the county-wide event on April 21 to celebrate survivors, support those undergoing treatment and honor those who lost their fight against cancer. In attendance were: front row, left to right, Mattie Freney, Eric Copeland, Kim Johns, Blakeley Odom, Blake Odom, Emily Odom, Rita Kelley, Whitney Cross, Tracey Bennett, Seclestine Yelverton, Halle Stephens, Anna Stephens and Gray Stephens; back row, left to right, Chris Harwell, Michael Stewart, Jay Farrington, Tim Messick, Wes Scott, John Shaw, Justin McDaniel, Casey Thompson, Dorothy Johnson and Martha Jones. ■

Happy Birthday!

- May 1Terry Bedsole
Lamar Crowe
J.P. Milstead
Chris Moseley
Al Mosley
David Purvis
- May 2 Craig Anderson
Brian Reeves
- May 3 Matt Diamond
Casey Jackson
- May 6 Bill Blount
Wayne Harrison
- May 7 Clay Carter
- May 10 Kevin Bryan
Flint Harrelson
Donovan Smith
David Tarpley
Branson Williams
- May 11 Lisa Dodd
Paul Dubose
- May 12 Tommy Averill
Joey Cooper
- May 13 Wayne Phillips
- May 14 Jason Stearns
- May 15 Tresa Middleton
- May 17 Ashley Barefoot
Hunter Dubose
Dewayne Jackson
- May 18 Sammy Hogg
- May 19 Marty Chesteen
Sherry Criswell
Johnny King
Buddy Reynolds
- May 22 Courtney Bowers
Brian Fleming
- May 23 Kim Bowers
Mark Dayton
- May 24 J.R. Harrell
- May 25 Kevin Breland
Chad Jenkins
- May 26 Cindy Bozeman
- May 28 Robert Beckham
- May 29 Debbie Bracewell
John Wiggins
- May 30 Percy Harris
Kevin West
- May 31 Baynard Ward



April photo contest winner: Daryl Batley

Congratulations to Daryl Batley, who captured this beautiful sunrise over the Lowman Plant.

Submit your photos now for the May contest. If sending an electronic file, please send the highest quality possible.

The winner selected on May 20 will receive a 75th anniversary tumbler and be featured in the May issue of *Powerlines*.

Send your entries to Christi Scruggs at christi.scruggs@powersouth.com or via interoffice mail. ■



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