**Thank you to Senator Nelson:**

Subject: Thank you for your support of RUS in the Senate

As a supporter of America's Electric Cooperatives, thank you for supporting the continued funding of the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Electric Loan program.

As you know, electric cooperatives maintain nearly half the nation’s power lines which cover 75 percent of America’s land mass while serving only 12% of all consumers. Cooperatives meet that unique challenge in part by utilizing RUS loans to finance affordable, reliable electric service to more than 42 million people. Not only is the RUS program a good investment in America, it pays dividends, by reducing the federal deficit. This year alone, electric loan repayments will add nearly $300 million to the U.S. Treasury.

Again, thank you for your support.

**Message to Senator Rubio:**

**Please support the RUS Program (2017):**

My electric cooperative, and the network of America's Electric Cooperatives across the country, keep the lights on for more than 42 million Americans.

That's why we need your help.

Please show your support for your co-op customers and those that benefit from rural co-ops by supporting the RUS program.

The RUS program is critical to rural America -- it helps finance much needed improvements. And, not only is the RUS program a good investment in America, it pays dividends, by reducing the federal deficit. This year alone, electric loan repayments will add nearly $300 million to U.S. Treasury.

The RUS program is a win-win initiative. Please show your support as part of your work in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Thank you.