

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 21, 2020

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

The Honorable Jovita Carranza
Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration
403 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Secretary Mnuchin and Administrator Carranza:

We write to thank you for your work in implementing the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and for supporting America's small businesses as they work to maintain operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We ask that as you work to implement the Paycheck Protection Program, you ensure that rural electric cooperatives, as private corporate business concerns operating on a cooperative basis, will be considered eligible recipients under the program. Electric cooperatives are privately-owned businesses, formed by and for the benefit of the communities that they serve, primarily in rural America.

The CARES Act, and the Paycheck Protection Program in particular, was designed to provide support to small businesses across the country, many of which face significant challenges retaining employees, maintaining payroll, and covering daily expenses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is generally available to "any business concern" that meets SBA size standards (as well as other eligible entities). Nearly all electric cooperatives are classified as "small" businesses under SBA's size standards, with the average distribution cooperative employing under 50 people. As these electric co-ops face the same challenges as many other small businesses, we believe the Small Business Administration should ensure they are eligible for the Paycheck Protection Program.

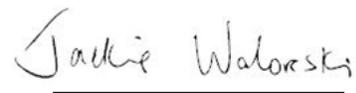
As you develop the guidance, regulations, and application forms for implementing the Paycheck Protection Program and other provisions of the CARES Act, we request you ensure America's electric cooperatives are deemed as qualifying business concerns and are able to fully participate and benefit as small businesses serving their local communities.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and look forward to continuing to work with you to implement the CARES Act in a timely manner. Please don't hesitate to contact our staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress

ANTHONY BRINDISI
Member of Congress

DAVID ROUZER
Member of Congress

JAMES E. CLYBURN
Member of Congress

PETE STAUBER
Member of Congress

DONNA E. SHALALA
Member of Congress

DOUG LAMBORN
Member of Congress

JASON CROW
Member of Congress

JIM HAGEDORN
Member of Congress

PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

DON YOUNG
Member of Congress

TERRI A. SEWELL
Member of Congress

PAUL A. GOSAR, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

STEVEN HORSFORD
Member of Congress

PHIL ROE, M.D.
Member of Congress

MARC VEASEY
Member of Congress

MIKE ROGERS
Member of Congress

SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
Member of Congress

TROY BALDERSON
Member of Congress

JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress

CHRIS STEWART
Member of Congress

ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress

MIKE BOST
Member of Congress

ALCEE L. HASTINGS
Member of Congress

BRUCE WESTERMAN
Member of Congress

VICENTE GONZALEZ
Member of Congress

RICK CRAWFORD
Member of Congress

ANN MCLANE KUSTER
Member of Congress

GREG PENCE
Member of Congress

TULSI GABBARD
Member of Congress

DAVID B. MCKINLEY, P.E.
Member of Congress

CHERI BUSTOS
Member of Congress

DOUG LAMALFA
Member of Congress

ABBY FINKENAUER
Member of Congress

DARIN LAHOOD
Member of Congress

DARREN SOTO
Member of Congress

KENNY MARCHANT
Member of Congress

CYNTHIA AXNE
Member of Congress

ANDY BARR
Member of Congress

LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER
Member of Congress

ROBERT E. LATTA
Member of Congress

MARK POCAN
Member of Congress

WILL HURD
Member of Congress

KENDRA S. HORN
Member of Congress

GLENN GROTHMAN
Member of Congress

XOCHITL TORRES SMALL
Member of Congress

MARK WALKER
Member of Congress

DAVE LOEBSACK
Member of Congress

W. GREGORY STEUBE
Member of Congress

LIZZIE FLETCHER
Member of Congress

GREG MURPHY
Member of Congress

BENNIE G. THOMPSON
Member of Congress

SUSAN W. BROOKS
Member of Congress

JOSH GOTTHEIMER
Member of Congress

JOHN CURTIS
Member of Congress

DANNY K. DAVIS
Member of Congress

JOHN SHIMKUS
Member of Congress

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

LANCE GOODEN
Member of Congress

ABIGAIL D. SPANBERGER
Member of Congress

KELLY ARMSTRONG
Member of Congress

DAN KILDEE
Member of Congress

RANDY K. WEBER
Member of Congress

A. DONALD MCEACHIN
Member of Congress

JACK BERGMAN
Member of Congress

COLLIN C. PETERSON
Member of Congress

GREG GIANFORTE
Member of Congress

EMANUEL CLEAVER, II
Member of Congress

JOHN MOOLENAAR
Member of Congress

JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress

BILLY LONG
Member of Congress

HENRY CUELLAR
Member of Congress

FRENCH HILL
Member of Congress

ANN KIRKPATRICK
Member of Congress

LIZ CHENEY
Member of Congress

DAVID PRICE
Member of Congress

MIKE JOHNSON
Member of Congress

RUBEN GALLEGRO
Member of Congress

BOB GIBBS
Member of Congress

ALMA S. ADAMS, PH.D.
Member of Congress

SCOTT DESJARLAIS, M.D.
Member of Congress

FILEMON VELA
Member of Congress

WILLIAM TIMMONS
Member of Congress

STACEY E. PLASKETT
Member of Congress

JEFF DUNCAN
Member of Congress

TOM O'HALLERAN
Member of Congress

PETE OLSON
Member of Congress

JOE CUNNINGHAM
Member of Congress

ROGER MARSHALL, M.D.
Member of Congress

RAUL RUIZ, M.D.
Member of Congress

TED S. YOHO, D.V.M.
Member of Congress

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
Member of Congress

ANDY HARRIS, M.D.
Member of Congress

KURT SCHRADER
Member of Congress

STEVE STIVERS
Member of Congress

SHARICE L. DAVIDS
Member of Congress

VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress

JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress

JOHN ROSE
Member of Congress

G.K. BUTTERFIELD
Member of Congress

NEAL DUNN
Member of Congress

DEBRA HAALAND
Member of Congress

JOE WILSON
Member of Congress

VAL B. DEMINGS
Member of Congress

TOM COLE
Member of Congress

ANTONIO DELGADO
Member of Congress

SAM GRAVES
Member of Congress

ROB BISHOP
Member of Congress

ANDY BIGGS
Member of Congress

KEN BUCK
Member of Congress

DAVID SCHWEIKERT
Member of Congress

ROBERT ADERHOLT
Member of Congress

MATT GAETZ
Member of Congress

RICK W. ALLEN
Member of Congress

MIKE GALLAGHER
Member of Congress

JAMES R. BAIRD
Member of Congress

LOUIE GOHMERT
Member of Congress

DAN BISHOP
Member of Congress

MICHAEL GUEST
Member of Congress

LARRY BUCSHON, M.D.
Member of Congress

RICHARD HUDSON
Member of Congress

TED BUDD
Member of Congress

BILL HUIZENGA
Member of Congress

MICHAEL C. BURGESS, M.D.
Member of Congress

DUSTY JOHNSON
Member of Congress

BRADLEY BYRNE
Member of Congress

ADAM KINZINGER
Member of Congress

RODNEY DAVIS
Member of Congress

DEBBIE LESKO
Member of Congress

CHUCK FLEISCHMANN
Member of Congress

FRANK D. LUCAS
Member of Congress

BILL FLORES
Member of Congress

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL
Member of Congress

CAROL D. MILLER
Member of Congress

FRED UPTON
Member of Congress

MARKWAYNE MULLIN
Member of Congress

TIM WALBERG
Member of Congress

RALPH NORMAN
Member of Congress

STEVE WATKINS
Member of Congress

GUY RESCHENTHALER
Member of Congress

DANIEL WEBSTER
Member of Congress

TOM RICE
Member of Congress

STEVE WOMACK
Member of Congress

DENVER RIGGLEMAN
Member of Congress

RON WRIGHT
Member of Congress

CHIP ROY
Member of Congress

BRIAN BABIN, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

JOHN RUTHERFORD
Member of Congress

BEN CLINE
Member of Congress

MIKE SIMPSON
Member of Congress

PAUL MITCHELL
Member of Congress

JASON SMITH
Member of Congress

DAN NEWHOUSE
Member of Congress

SCOTT TIPTON
Member of Congress

DAVID KUSTOFF
Member of Congress

JEFF VAN DREW
Member of Congress

BRAD R. WENSTRUP, D.P.M.
Member of Congress

H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
Member of Congress

GEORGE HOLDING
Member of Congress

ED PERLMUTTER
Member of Congress

FRED KELLER
Member of Congress

JODEY ARRINGTON
Member of Congress

MIKE KELLY
Member of Congress