

Half-a-million postcards delivered to Senate offices from coop customers

More than 500,000 postcards from electric cooperative consumers in 28 states were delivered to Senate offices Sept. 30 following the unveiling of the Senate climate change bill. The postcards urged senators to "work with cooperatives to ensure climate change legislation is, fair, affordable and achievable."

"We want to make sure our members' voices are heard," said Nelle Hotchkiss, senior vice president of corporate relations for the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, which delivered 10,000 cards to North Carolina Sens. Kay Hagan and Richard Burr. "The thousands of cards are tangible evidence that cooperative consumers are paying attention and have real concerns about this legislation."

"The response from cooperative members has been overwhelming," said Glenn English, CEO of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. "Boxes on top of boxes on top of boxes of signed post-cards—that is what a genuine grassroots campaign looks like."

The postcard campaign is part of Our Energy, Our Future, a national grassroots effort by rural electric cooperatives to engage consumer-members in a conversation with elected officials about meeting climate change goals while keeping electricity reliable and affordable.