Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

Hello, my name is Randy Hill. I have been the Member Services Manager for the past 16 years. I have more than 25 years experience at Planters Electric Membership Corporation. Planters EMC serves about 16,000 meters in mainly Burke, Screven and Jenkins Counties, but we also have meters in Bulloch, Effingham, Emanuel and Richmond Counties. We are in Southeast Georgia between Augusta and Savannah.

EPA - Please do not implement the proposed rules of the Clean Power Plan. Planters EMC's service territory covers a large part of rural Georgia, and many areas that in the past few decades have been struggling to survive in the face of a tough economy and a constant increase in cost of goods.

As a non-profit cooperative, any increase in energy costs will have to be passed directly to our members, many of whom cannot afford any increases in their cost of energy.

By reducing the overall amount of dependable base load power generation available, the EPA is removing a vital safety net that prevents rolling blackouts at times of peak use. For example, on the morning of Jan. 6th and 7th this year when record low temperatures gripped the nation, Georgia's electric utilities set all-time peak demands and usage for energy, and much of that demand happened in the pre-dawn and early morning hours. The energy that met that peak demand was nuclear, natural gas and COAL. All conventional sources of energy were absolutely critical to ensure that we were able to keep our homes and businesses running.

Lastly, we question whether EPA has the authority to regulate CO2 under section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act in the first place.

At most, 111(d) may permit the EPA to provide guidance to the states on how to determine the best system of emissions reductions at each power plant. But this proposal will require sweeping changes to the electric utility industry.

This proposal is basically granting the EPA limitless authority to regulate the entire economy and the lifestyles of every consumer in the country.

The EPA must withdraw this proposal and come up with a new approach that falls within the narrow scope of authority granted by Congress.

I want to repeat - EPA - Please do not implement the proposed rules of the Clean Power Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.