



July 18, 2017

The Honorable James M. Inhofe 205 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Inhofe:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the NRECA Board of Directors has unanimously selected you to receive the 2017 Distinguished Service Award.

This award has a long and distinguished history of recognizing national leaders who make essential contributions to electric cooperatives and the communities they serve. It is reserved for those who, over time, demonstrate repeated support for the 42 million Americans who belong to electric cooperatives.

Throughout your service as a United States Senator and former Chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee, you have supported legislation important to electric cooperatives and the utility industry. Because of your support of the electric cooperative program during your time in public office in Oklahoma, NRECA's membership views you as a tireless advocate. On issues facing rural consumers, businesses and families, you are a vital ally

Again, please accept my congratulations on your receipt of the 2017 Distinguished Service Award. We plan to present this award to you during the 2018 NRECA Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. As the date of that conference draws near, we will be in contact with you regarding the specifics of announcing and presenting the award.

If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at (703) 907-5540. Thank you for your earnest representation of electric cooperatives across the country.

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Jim Matheson CEO, NRECA

Cc: Phil Carson, President, NRECA

Curtis Wynn, Vice-President, NRECA

Chris Christensen, Secretary-Treasurer, NRECA

Tim Smith, NRECA Oklahoma Director

Chris Meyers, CEO Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives