

DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

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Community strong: Lighting the way after the storm

Powering through together

On the evening of May 16, just before midnight, a powerful EF-4 tornado passed through the Lake Cumberland area, leaving its mark on several communities in its path—and directly on South Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative. The storm moved quickly but left behind significant damage, including a direct hit to the co-op's main headquarters.

In the early hours that followed, much was unknown. With operational communications down and systems of-line, staff didn't yet know the number of members affected or the full condition of the building that had served as a hub of service and connection for South Kentucky RECC since 2017.

But what was known, almost immediately, was that the people of SKRECC were already doing what they do best—coming together, rolling up their sleeves and getting to work for their members and each other.

Stepping up without hesitation

Even in the dark and with limited information, lineworkers quickly got to work when it was deemed safe to do so. With their dispatch center offline and outage systems down, they relied on instinct and experience to begin restoring power across the area.



BRANDON WESLEY



MISSY JOHNSON

Within a day, contract crews and mutual aid teams began to arrive from across Kentucky—and even from as far as Georgia—ready to lend a hand. Trucks filled the roads, headlights lit up downed lines and the quiet resolve of lineworkers echoed louder than the storm itself.

“Crews were out just hours after the tornado moved through,” says SKRECC President & CEO Kevin Newton. “Everyone understood the importance

of the work ahead. Safety was always our top priority—but so was our commitment to taking care of our members.”

All hands, all hearts

Back at the damaged headquarters, employees from every department sprang into action. Some worked to restore the co-op's critical network infrastructure while others dug through the rubble to save equipment and documents.

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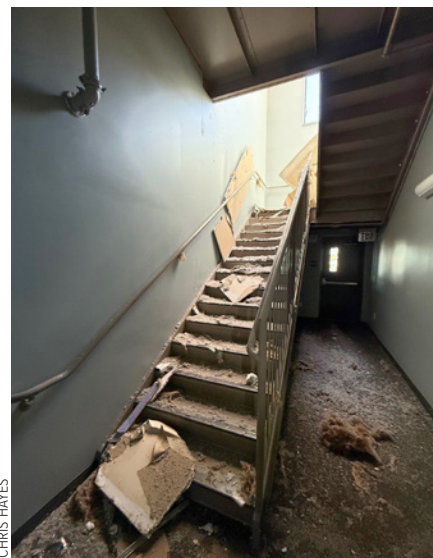
BOBBIE COGGINS



JUSTIN MAYFIELD



CHRIS HAYES



CHRIS HAYES

Team members delivered meals and fed line crews, managed laundry for mutual aid teams, and cleared debris from the grounds.

No matter the job title, every employee found a role to play. Essential services continued—sometimes from borrowed desks, other times from vehicles or folding tables set up under tents.

“There was no playbook for a week like this,” says Newton. “Everyone just stepped up...we took care of our members and each other.”

In addition to those on the ground in Somerset, employees at SKRECC’s district offices also stepped in to help. Whether it was handling calls, coordinating supplies, offering

administrative support or simply checking in on their coworkers, their efforts added another layer of strength to the co-op’s unified response. “Our district teams rallied without hesitation,” says Newton. “They did everything in their power to support our Somerset family. It was incredible to see that kind of compassion in action.”

Surrounded by support

The outpouring of community support was immediate and deeply felt. Churches, businesses, local schools, civic organizations and individuals brought food, donated supplies and offered encouragement. Co-op members called to express gratitude—and to ask how they could help.

SKRECC’s Board of Directors provided unwavering support and their commitment to the cooperative was evident.

From the statewide office at Kentucky Electric Cooperatives to power supplier East Kentucky Power Cooperative, partners mobilized quickly to assist SKRECC during its time of need.

“We felt it in every phone call, every donation, every helping hand,” Newton says. “It reminded us what makes the communities we serve—and our co-op family—so special.”

A long road, but a clear one

As the dust settled and assessments began, the extent of the damage became clear.

CHRIS HAYES



MISSY JOHNSON



The main headquarters building will be demolished and replaced. The warehouse building—though damaged—will

be repaired, and its office space restored. Other out buildings on the property will also be repaired in the months to come.

LETICIA ARANDA



In the meantime, temporary office spaces have been secured and the co-op has reorganized its operations in order to continue to service its members.

Resilience, together

Throughout the challenges faced, unwavering strength and unity have been evident. The collective efforts of members, employees and neighbors have been instrumental in the cooperative's ongoing recovery. With continued collaboration and support, South Kentucky RECC is committed to rebuilding and serving its members with renewed dedication.



MORGAN BLEVINS

SKRECC Somerset Service Center now open at Somerset Mall

We're excited to share that our new Somerset Service Center is now open inside the Somerset Mall! We're here to assist you Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A secure drop box is also available inside the entrance during mall hours for your convenience.

Please note, our Somerset headquarters is no longer in operation due to recent tornado damage.

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Visit www.skrecc.applicantpro.com/jobs/ to explore exciting career opportunities with the South Kentucky RECC Team.

South Kentucky RECC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

Visit www.skrecc.com to pay your bill online, to visit our outage center, or for more information about the Co-op Connections Program.

To report an outage 24/7/365, please call your local office, (800) 264-5112, or set up your account to be able to text outages. Please do not report outages via social media.

Plug into South Kentucky RECC. Follow us on social media:



Over the past few weeks, we've been deeply touched by the kindness and support from our members, neighbors and partners. Your generous donations, heartfelt messages and unwavering assistance have been a guiding light during this challenging time.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for standing with us. Your compassion and sense of community exemplify the strength of our region and inspire us as we work toward rebuilding and continuing to serve you with dedication and care.

With deepest gratitude,

The Board of Directors and South Kentucky RECC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Kentucky Public Service Commission (the "Commission") will conduct a hearing at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Thursday, July 17, 2025, in the Richard Raff Hearing Room 1 at the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40602, for the purposes of cross-examination of witnesses of South Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation ("South Kentucky") in PSC Case No. 2024-00402, regarding South Kentucky's Application for a rate increase. This notice is provided in compliance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2)(b). This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov. Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.

South Kentucky RECC will be closed Friday, July 4, in honor of Independence Day.

Please call (800) 264-5112 in case of outages.



JONATHAN MAUFER/DOBE STOCK