

September 28, 2015

Dear Governor Haley,

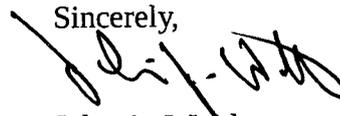
I am writing in regards to the funding for the repair of the bridges and highways in our state. First, I am disappointed that you and the legislature only approved a "bandaid" of \$200-300 million in the past legislative session.

Nevertheless, I have an idea that could possibly generate billions of dollars on a one time basis for the infrastructure repair: Sell the Santee Cooper Electric Cooperative.

Next I would like to share some further thoughts. First the State of South Carolina should not be in the power business. I think the company was formed by the Federal Rural Electrification Agency during the Depression; government intervention is no longer needed. We taxpayers who do not live in the Santee Cooper service district do not have our power subsidized by a nonprofit state owned company. Secondly I recently saw two occasions where Santee Cooper was acting as a facilitator to economic development in Cherokee County and the new Volvo plant in Berkeley County. Is that within its mission? I would have thought that all annual profits would go into the general fund of the state.

In conclusion I would like to request that the idea be investigated. I know it would take legislative action to accomplish the sale, but why not use the next four months before the next legislative session to study the idea and establish the monetary value of Santee Cooper?

Sincerely,



Johnnie J. Walters  
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cc:

Rep. Dan Hamilton  
Sen. Ross Turner  
Rep. Mike Burns  
Rep. Dwight Loftis  
Mr. Swati Patel  
Mr. Jim Casserly