



SOUTH CAROLINA POWER TEAM

THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES AND SANTEE COOPER

June 2, 2014

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Governor
800 Richland Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

I have served the South Carolina Power Team as President & CEO since August, 2013. I have learned in my short time here the critical role that our electric cooperatives play in leading the communities they serve. And Tom Upshaw, President of Palmetto Electric Cooperative, is a shining example of leadership in the Palmetto State.

It is my privilege to recommend Tom for the Order of the Palmetto. Tom's upcoming retirement was announced long before my arrival. And rather than riding out these last few months, Tom has continued doing what he has always done...lead his community.

In addition to serving as Chairman of Hilton Head Chamber of Commerce, he is also chairing the newly formed economic development group that engages business leaders to adopt a strategy for diversifying the region's economic base. So while his day to day duties with the cooperative will stop, he remains dedicated to his volunteer efforts.

It is my sincere hope that you will look favorably on this request.

If you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

James A. Chavez
President & CEO