



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Labor Cabinet

1047 US 127 SOUTH
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601-1975

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Larry L. Roberts, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Daniel Lowry
502.564.3219
502.545.9089

Big Rivers Electric Headquarters Earns Governor's Safety and Health Award

Employees work more than 500,000 hours without a lost-time incident

HENDERSON, Ky. (Dec. 2, 2013) – Deputy Secretary Rocky Comito of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet joined employees and officials in Henderson today to honor the headquarters of Big Rivers Electric Corp. with the Governor's Safety and Health Award. The honor recognizes the member-owned cooperative's headquarters for 500,000 hours without a lost-time accident or illness.

Kentucky Labor Cabinet Secretary Larry Roberts applauded the accomplishment.

"Big Rivers Electric has established a proven commitment to the safety and health of its employees," said Secretary Roberts. "I commend Big Rivers for this most recent Governor's Safety and Health Award, and it follows a culture of safety that is quickly becoming a proud tradition at Big Rivers."

Incorporated in 1961, Big Rivers is a member-owned, not-for-profit, generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Henderson. Big Rivers owns, operates and maintains a 1,285-mile transmission system, three generating plants and 22 substations.

Big Rivers is owned by three distribution cooperative members: Jackson Purchase Energy Corp., headquartered in Paducah; Kenegy Corp., headquartered in Henderson; and Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corp., headquartered in Brandenburg. These member cooperatives deliver retail electric power and energy to more than 113,000

residential, commercial, and industrial customers in portions of 22 western Kentucky counties.

“Safety is our top corporate value and is the foundation for all decisions and expectations at Big Rivers, said Mark Bailey, Big Rivers Electric president and CEO. “Receiving the Governor’s Safety and Health Award is a testament to our employees’ attitude and professionalism and their commitment to keep safety a primary focus every day.”

Its headquarters had its last lost-time incident June 20, 2011. On Oct. 8, 2013, the headquarters surpassed the milestone of 500,000 hours without a lost-time incident, qualifying for the Governor’s Safety and Health Award.

This latest honor comes after all three Big Rivers plant locations earned Governor Safety and Health Awards in 2013 and 2012. The entire company, more than 550 employees, completed all of 2012 without a lost-time incident.

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet presents the Governor’s Safety and Health Award in recognition of outstanding safety and health performance. An establishment may qualify for the award if its employees together achieve a required number of hours worked without experiencing a lost-time injury or illness. The required number of hours is dependent upon the number of employees. In the case of Big Rivers’s headquarters, the requirement is 500,000 hours.

Every establishment within the geographical boundaries of Kentucky is eligible, even if the establishment won the award the previous year. Eligibility is limited to one award during a 12-month period of time.

The award is a certificate mounted on a wooden plaque. The certificate contains the signatures of Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear, Secretary Roberts and Department of Workplace Standards Commissioner Anthony Russell.

For more on the Governor’s Safety and Health Award, and for a list of past winners, click [here](#).

For more on Big Rivers, visit www.bigrivers.com.

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The Kentucky Labor Cabinet’s primary responsibility is to ensure that divisions and offices falling under the auspices of the Cabinet work within the jurisdiction of Kentucky labor law to ensure equitable and fair treatment of the Commonwealth’s more than 1.9 million wage-earning employees. The Cabinet, according to regulation, has the duties, responsibilities, power, and authority relating to labor, wage and hour issues, occupational safety and health of employees, child labor, apprenticeship, workers’

compensation insurance, and all other matters under the jurisdiction of the Labor Cabinet. For more information, visit www.labor.ky.gov/.

