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ENERGYUNITED LINEMAN PLACES 5TH AT STATE COMPETITION

STATESVILLE, N.C. –

Austin Story, a lineman at EnergyUnited had a great performance at this year's Pole Top Rescue Competition today (September 27, 2016), going up against 25 other champions from local cooperatives across the state. The event was held on the lawn of the North Carolina Electric Cooperatives building in Raleigh.

In the Pole Top Rescue scenario, line workers must place an emergency radio call—*dressed in full climbing gear*-- scale 20 feet up a utility pole, rig a rope, lower a 105-pound mannequin and begin CPR.

Austin completed the course in 1:51, which earned him 5th place overall in the competition. At the beginning of the year, nearly 600 of North Carolina's electric cooperative line workers competed in their local event to earn a trip to Raleigh for the finals and EnergyUnited is thrilled that Austin was the lineman that represented the co-op. While time is one aspect of the competition, Austin made no mistakes with his work skills or rescue techniques. Austin also represented EnergyUnited at the statewide competition in 2014, where he finished in 6th place. Levi Fagan, another lineman for EnergyUnited, had the second fastest qualifying score this year and was cheering Austin on at the statewide competition. He was designated to participate in the competition if Austin was unable.

Austin is proud of his performance in this year's statewide event, and is excited to start training for the 2018 Pole Top Rescue Competition. "EnergyUnited has a great group of guys that compete. They keep you on top of your game, so I know it will be a challenge to get to the statewide event in 2018," Austin says. "But that's good for us; we know we all have each other's back in case of an emergency."

About EnergyUnited EnergyUnited Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) is the largest electric cooperative in North Carolina serving nearly 124,000 metering points. Headquartered in Statesville, EnergyUnited provides electric service in portions of nineteen counties in west central North Carolina which include Alexander, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stokes, Wilkes and Yadkin. EnergyUnited Propane provides products and services to more than 25,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in 74 counties across North and South Carolina. Visit EnergyUnited online at www.energyunited.com to learn more about our electric and propane business

