



## Sample Questions for Congressional Meetings

Visits with your Congressional delegation are an important part of the Youth Tour experience. Members of Congress want to hear what you have to say. It is important to note that these meetings can reflect positively, or negatively, on the rural electric cooperative program.

To help make sure that these meetings with your representatives and senators go well, here are some “pump-priming” questions to get the ball rolling during a Q&A session. Feel free to use these during your meetings.

- Is rural America losing its influence in rural America?
- What has Congress done to make higher education more affordable?
- Experts say that our nation’s growing electricity needs will soon go beyond what renewable sources, conservation and efficiency can provide. What is your plan to make sure we have the electricity we’ll need?
- With all the focus on carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions, do you see us moving to expand the role of non-emitting energy sources like nuclear power?
- What is Congress doing to fully fund the research and technology required to make emissions free power plants a reality?
- Given the current state of the economy, how can we spur economic development in rural areas?
- The cost of electricity is continually increasing. Proposed EPA regulations will further increase these costs. What is your plan to keep electricity bills affordable?
- What is the impact of budget deficits on domestic programs? Education? Agriculture?
- What has Congress done to make higher education more affordable?
- There seems to be a never-ending conflict between Democrats and Republicans. Is this partisanship harmful to the country? Do you have friends across the political aisle?
- Were you always interested in politics? What was your career path to Congress?
- How do you balance living in Washington, D.C., with representing a rural state/district?
- What can we do to become better leaders in our community?