

# THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



## Wicker Commends Trump's Focus on U.S. Energy Independence

*Anticipated Executive Action Could End the Obama Administration's War on Coal*

The Obama Administration had a troubling habit of picking the energy industry's winners and losers. The Trump Administration is taking a different approach, with policies designed to make American workers and families the real winners. In the coming days, President Trump is expected to put an end to the previous Administration's job-killing war on coal.

The order could specifically target President Obama's so-called Clean Power Plan, a linchpin of his extreme environmental agenda. Under this plan, states are forced to comply with severe limits on carbon dioxide emissions, which disproportionately affect power plants. This federal overreach is so intrusive that the Supreme Court has already halted its implementation. Although the last Congress passed two Republican-led measures to overturn these burdensome regulations, both measures were ultimately vetoed by President Obama.

be exposed to a variety of critical employment skills that will lead to career readiness.

If you would like to help as a mentor or volunteer or perhaps provide an opportunity for program participants to visit your place of work for a tour, please contact our clubs or visit our web page at [www.bgcmsdelta.org](http://www.bgcmsdelta.org) or find us on Facebook.

come to a clean environment, just like our own homes. Let's begin this effort by making our slogan, "There's No Place Like HOLMES" something we truly mean, not just something that sounds clever.

Supervisor Debra Mabry  
Lexington

### Costs Without the Benefits

President Trump has repeatedly called for a much-needed reversal of President Obama's climate rules. In addition to legal concerns, the costs and benefits of the Obama Administration's regulatory onslaught just do not add up. National Economic Research Associates has estimated the rules would cost as much as \$39 billion a year and prompt double-digit increases in electricity rates in most states. In Mississippi, compliance would shutter coal-fired plants and require new infrastructure, disrupting energy reliability and leading to higher utility costs.

Environmental policies should come with actual results. President Obama's drastic regulation of carbon dioxide emissions would not make a significant impact on global temperatures, despite the unreasonable burdens put on American workers and families. His plan also ignores the strides by energy providers in Mississippi to reduce CO2 emissions in recent years. These advancements and investments

should not be overlooked.

**Strong Energy Sector Important to Jobs, Economy**  
Achieving U.S. energy independence is a goal I share with President Trump. Removing rules that do more harm than good is a step we should take toward achieving energy security. Our national interests should not be put at risk by a reliance on foreign energy providers when we have plentiful resources here at home. I am encouraged by the technological advances that have helped U.S. oil production reach levels not seen in more than four decades. America is now recognized for having the largest oil reserves in the world.  
The strength of our energy sector is critical to economic growth and job creation. According to the U.S. Energy and Employment Report released last year, more than 5.5 million Americans work in either traditional energy industries or those related to energy efficiency. About a third of workers in the U.S. construction industry work on energy or energy-efficiency projects  
Energy policy makes a difference at the local level, too. According to a 2015 study, nearly 60,000 Mississippians are employed in energy jobs, and the sector contributes \$6.7 billion to the state's gross domestic product. Washington should not hamper these benefits to our state and workforce by imposing high-cost, big-government regulations.



The Kappa Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for two-year colleges, held its induction ceremony in the Montgomery Fine Arts Auditorium on March 8 on the Goodman Campus. Holmes County residents (front row, l-r) London Steverson, Swayze Gardner, Kylee Killebrew, Eryca Edwards, D'Ariel Shannon, Rodriecka White, Ana-Claire Edwards, (back row, l-r) Reilly Carr, Shane Taylor, Ethan Burton, Derrel Bilsky, Hallie Murtagh, Blake Bell and Lamar Land were inducted. (Photo by Steve Diffey/HCC Communications)

## Volunteers needed for new Boys and Girls Club work readiness program

The Boys & Girls Clubs in the Mississippi Delta are seeking mentors and volunteers to assist with a brand new program designed to prepare area young people for opportunities in the workforce.  
Through the Mississippi Alliance for the Boys & Girls Clubs, the clubs are creating Community Youth Career Development Centers for teens ages 12-18. Program staff are working with area schools, youth service counselors, local law enforcement, churches and other groups to identify teens to take part in the program.  
The program will focus on fi-

nancial literacy and job readiness. The effort will encourage young people to understand what it takes to be a productive and valued member of the community. It will include sharing employment opportunities beyond graduation and even before they graduate.  
Mentors and volunteers will provide awareness and advice to young people on how they can prepare themselves for their opportunity.  
Training and programming will include improving social skills, drafting resumes, managing online profiles and specific workforce

skills.  
Program staff will coordinate and facilitate a monthly case plan with each youth to monitor their progress.  
Various educational activities have been planned, including visits to colleges and community colleges. Staff will also work to ensure academic success and on time graduation among participants.  
Through community partnerships and volunteers, training and experiential learning opportunities, as well as exposure to BGCA's suite of workforce development programs, members will



### Letter to the Editor

I have never seen as much garbage around Holmes County as now. Does the garbage truck pick up your garbage? I know that it does, and I know that the garbage we're seeing everywhere does not belong to Holmes Countians, because WE have more PRIDE and RESPECT for our county. Don't we?  
We focus on education, economic development, health care, housing, and road and bridges, to name a few. But, appearance is the one thing we should be focusing on. At the moment, our appearance makes our county look NOT so attractive to new businesses and industries which we need to provide jobs.  
I know this is going to change, because we are a county of

proud citizens that know how to come together to make changes for the better. For this reason, paper should be picked up, furniture and mattresses, etc., should not be on the side of the road, because "CHANGE is on its way to Holmes County!"  
Now, statistics have our county rated #1 in everything that's Unhealthy: diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, obesity, failing schools, bad roads, and high unemployment. Those things will only change if we, the citizens that live here, change. No, not just some of us - ALL of us need to roll up our sleeves and take on this responsibility because we live here; so, WE must make it better.  
Just think, if we continue as we are, garbage will overrun

our county! We are paying for garbage pick-up in our county; so, why is there garbage everywhere? I know it cannot belong to people in this county; it must belong to people passing through. Consequently, just as we're going to make changes in the statistics that say we are the most unhealthy county, we're going to make the necessary changes to become one of the CLEANEST counties. Why? Because we live here.  
Being citizens of Holmes County, we like to think of every person that comes to visit as part of our family. We want them to

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Wheat	Jul 17	2017 Jul	4.35	-0.27	4.08	-0.05
Corn	May 17	2017 Mar	3.56	0.01	3.57	0.00
Corn	Sep 17	2017 Aug	3.71	-0.04	3.67	-0.01
Soybeans Sidon	Nov 17	2017 Aug Sep	9.71	-0.30	0.00	0.00
Soybeans G'wood	May 17	2017 Mar	9.72	-0.17	9.55	-0.04
Soybeans G'wood	Nov 17	2017 Aug Sep	9.71	-0.14	9.57	-0.06
Soybeans Minter City	Nov 17	2017 Aug Sep	9.71	-0.19	0.00	0.00
Rice	May 17		9.805			0.025
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Cotton	Dec 17		75.02			-0.470

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