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ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6115
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September 29, 2016

Mr. Douglas Smith
Partner
Van Ness Feldman, LLP
1050 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Power on Wednesday, September 7, 2016, to testify at the hearing entitled "Federal Power Act: Historical Perspectives."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on October 12, 2016. Your responses should be mailed to Will Batson, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Will.Batson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Fred Upton
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Bobby Rush, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Power

Attachment

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Morgan Griffith

1. Do you believe that the markets are adequately compensating baseload plants for their unique attributes (including dependability and reliability) they provide the grid?

2. What reforms do you think could be made to ensure baseload plants – particularly coal-fired power plants – are adequately compensated for these attributes?

3. If baseload units are forced to close – by a combination of market dynamics, unfavorable market rules, and escalating regulatory costs – will it require a major restructuring of transmission infrastructure?

   A. Have the cost and impact of massive new transmission facilities been evaluated if major baseload stations continue to close?

4. What effect do renewable energy subsidies and mandates have on the grid and our bulk power supply – particularly on reliability?

   A. How are baseload units affected by these market preferences?

   B. Have these preferences contributed to the closure of certain baseload units – particularly coal-power units?

The Honorable Paul Tonko

1. It is clear that today's grid is different than 20 years ago, and it is continuing to change rapidly. Mr. Smith's testimony explained how different technologies and grid management techniques are testing the boundaries between federal and state jurisdictions. Tomorrow's grid will raise even more questions with the growth in storage capacity and microgrids.

   A. Are there any lessons we can learn from FERC's actions in the 1980s and 1990s on how to plan for these impending changes, which will make our grid and electricity markets even more complicated than they are today?