ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927 Minority (202) 225-3641

June 5, 2018

Dr. Edward Krapels CEO Anbaric Development Partners 401 Edgewater Place; Suite 680 Wakefield, MA 01880

Dear Dr. Krapels:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Thursday, May 10, 2018, to testify at the hearing entitled "Examining the State of Electric Transmission Infrastructure: Investment, Planning, Construction, and Alternatives."

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. To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Tuesday, June 19, 2018. Your responses should be mailed to Kelly Collins, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Kelly.Collins@mail.house.gov.

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

Sincerely,

Fred Upton

Chairman

Subcommittee on Energy

cc: The Honorable Bobby L. Rush, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Fred Upton

- 1. You are an infrastructure developer and you've actually built transmission projects, including an underwater DC cable connecting New Jersey with Long Island. As you know, DC lines have been around ever since Thomas Edison championed the technology.
 - a. Can you explain why high-voltage DC transmission lines are not more prevalent in this country?
 - b. What are the major benefits of DC over AC transmission?
- 2. In a recent article in the Electricity Journal you wrote that interregional coordination almost always reaches a dead end because transmission planners only care about the reliability of their own systems without having to rely on neighboring regions.
 - a. If we had this mentality, highways would end at state borders and we would not have an interstate highway system. How can we encourage or direct the development of inter-regional transmission lines?

The Honorable Richard Hudson

On April 19, FERC issued a new rule (Order No. 845) concerning revisions to the interconnection process for large generators which are over 20 MWs. The intent of this rule is to reduce the backlog of interconnection queue requests, however, these new regulations put the onus on the transmission provider to develop new procedures to accommodate additional flexibility for interconnecting generators. The interconnection process is already quite complicated with several studies often required to determine the impact of the new generation on the transmission grid with various deadlines for each specific step in the process. This was manageable when there were only a handful of interconnection requests in a year. However, these queues have grown more recently due to the significant increase in the number of smaller-sized interconnection requests for wind and solar generation. Developers typically put in several requests at one time, knowing that many of them will not get built. In some cases, there is more proposed generation in the queue than the total customer load in a particular area.

- 1. Do you believe that this new interconnection rule will alleviate these backlogs?
- 2. How would modifications made by interconnection customers affect the interconnection studies of later-queued requests?