

Testimony of Judy W. Chang

Commissioner

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

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Chairman Duncan, Ranking Member DeGette, Chair Rodgers, Ranking Member Pallone, Vice-Chair Curtis, and members of the Subcommittee. Thank you for the invitation to testify this morning and thank you for the valuable oversight role that you undertake. This is my first opportunity to testify before this Subcommittee, and I am honored to appear today with my colleagues, as part of a fully staffed Commission.

To briefly introduce myself, I recently joined the Commission after more than two decades working in the energy sector, in a variety of roles. I spent my formative years in Taiwan and the Philippines before moving to California to finish high school and attend university. My experience growing up in developing countries provided me with a deep appreciation for the value of a reliable and resilient grid. This value is even more critical as our country experiences and anticipates rapidly growing electricity usage from manufacturing facilities and data centers, plus the electrification of transportation and heating. We must meet these demands while keeping our systems resilient to increasingly frequent extreme weather events. This is a major challenge that has been a focus of the Commission for some time, and that I commit to help address.

I have deep experience in analyzing the economics of and public policies around our energy systems. I have worked with private companies, including all types of public utilities across the country, in developing business strategies for meeting the energy needs of their customers. I have held a leadership position in Massachusetts state government where I experienced first-hand the importance of having adequate infrastructure, efficient market frameworks, and viable approaches to grow our economy while navigating policies and programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Drawing on my background and professional experience in the private sector, and my tenure in state government, I have a deep appreciation for the foundational importance of

ensuring the reliability and affordability of energy system. These imperatives are, for good reason, front and center in every utility executive and government leader's mind, and they are prerequisites for a robust economy and the successful execution of the energy transition in which the country finds itself today.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, given its responsibilities in the electric, gas and oil sectors, plays a crucial role in ensuring both the reliability and affordability of our energy systems. As a Commissioner, one of my priorities is ensuring a robust and reliable transmission system, including the use of advanced technologies, to deliver affordable energy to all consumers. This is paramount to the economic growth of our nation, and this is how the United States will continue to lead the world and compete on the global stage in technological innovation and infrastructure development. I also commit to working closely and collaboratively with my colleagues to ensure that we provide clear, timely, and thoughtful guidance for the industry to develop and retain the energy infrastructure needed to advance our economy and reliably serve the American people.

I am happy to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you very much for this opportunity.