

BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY
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FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY
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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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May 19, 2026

The Honorable David A. LaCerte
Commissioner
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Commissioner LaCerte:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, to testify at the hearing entitled “Oversight of FERC: Advancing Affordable and Reliable Energy for All Americans.”

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 Wednesday, June 3, 2026. Your responses should be mailed to Seth Ricketts Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed to Seth.Ricketts@mail.house.gov.

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

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy

cc: Kathy Castor, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy

Attachment

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Brett Guthrie (R-KY)

1. It takes time to build reliable generation and infrastructure upgrades, yet these are what people need for a more reliable system and what the Tech Industry needs in the race for AI dominance. How do you see harnessing the tech industry interest and resources in speed to power with the imperative to ensure affordability?

The Honorable Bob Latta (R-OH)

1. Recent extreme cold across the country highlights how imperative reliable pipeline infrastructure is to keeping Americans warm and safe. Does FERC believe the current permitting structure for interstate natural gas pipelines is aligned with the scale and speed of infrastructure expansion now required?

The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA)

1. February's hearing focused on whether FERC is helping us meet our economic and national security goals while ensuring affordable rates to all customers. Additions and upgrades to the electrical transmission system, which you regulate, are necessary to meet those goals, but also represent a significant percentage of the increase in customer bills. What concrete steps are you taking to ensure customer affordability in the face of this challenge?
2. The whole of the federal government and the energy industry are focused on speed to power to allow new large loads, primarily data centers, to interconnect and operate as quickly as possible. While interconnecting these large load quickly is a national security and economic imperative, they bring with them new and not well understood reliability risks to the bulk electric system. Ignoring these reliability risks could cost customers significantly in the future. Please explain what actions FERC can take to ensure that large load interconnection processes are not jeopardizing reliability.
3. At the January Commission meeting, Chairman Swett praised MISO's Expedited Resource Addition Study or ERAS process as providing a framework for expedited generator interconnection to address urgent resource adequacy needs. As you work towards final action on the Department of Energy's Large Load Interconnection ANOPR, how do you plan to support flexibility in compliance with any rule such as leveraging effective, regionally developed solutions like MISO's ERAS process and Expedited Project Review transmission planning process?
4. 3 coal plants in the MISO region have now received Section 202(c) orders from the Secretary of Energy to continue operating past their retirement dates. Their owners have proposed cost allocations to FERC to recover the net costs of keeping those plants open across broad swaths of the MISO footprint. Please explain what the Commission is doing to ensure that those costs are prudently incurred and that

consistent with cost causation only those who benefit from the plants are allocated costs.

The Honorable Troy Balderson (R-OH)

1. In December, the House of Representatives passed my bill, the Reliable Power Act, with bipartisan support.

This bill would task FERC with reviewing agency regulations and rulemakings that directly affect the bulk-power system, if the electric reliability organization has determined the system is at risk of not having sufficient electric generation to maintain reliability. The bill directs FERC to consult with the electric reliability organization and transmission organizations such as RTOs when reviewing these agency actions.

Do you believe FERC has the expertise to coordinate with agencies and review regulations impacting the bulk-power system? And would partnering or consulting with NERC and transmission organizations in these reviews help ensure federal rulemakings are not negatively impacting the reliability of the bulk-power system?

2. Ohio and other states across the PJM region are facing rapidly accelerating electricity demand - particularly from data center growth. The White House and regional PJM governors recently endorsed a “Statement of Principles” urging PJM to conduct a Reliability Backstop Auction to bring new generation online quickly. I believe President Trump and this administration deserve credit for bringing these parties together so we can win the AI race while also protecting ratepayers and ensuring our constituents have access to reliable, affordable energy.

As PJM and FERC work together on this backstop auction, what changes to existing PJM policies or FERC practices may be needed to ensure residential ratepayers are protected? And will FERC evaluate whether this approach appropriately allocates costs so that data centers pay their fair share and costs are not shifted to households?

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ)

1. A 2024 report indicated that transmission spending is sharply increasing largely due to low-voltage, local transmission projects, which may be less efficient and cost-effective than higher-voltage regional or interregional projects, and are subject to less scrutiny by FERC.¹ This issue has also come up repeatedly in technical conferences convened by the FERC. How should FERC ensure a buildout of more efficient and cost-effective transmission lines over more costly and less-effective transmission lines?
 - a. What opportunities exist for FERC to add more transparency to the local transmission planning process?

¹ <https://rmi.org/insight/mind-the-regulatory-gap/>

- b. Does FERC need support from Congress to ensure that transmission projects paid for by ratepayers are efficient and cost-effective?