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RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH 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) 225-3641
Minority (202) 225-2927

June 22, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: Subcommittee on Energy Members and Staff
From: Committee Majority Staff
Re: Subcommittee on Energy Markup on June 24, 2026

I. INTRODUCTION

The Subcommittee on Energy will hold a markup on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. (ET) in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building. The markup will consider the following legislation:

- H.R. 9332, Load Forecasting Enhancement Act (Reps. Balderson and Menendez)
- H.R. 9339, Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act (Reps. Harshbarger and Mullin)
- H.R. 9335, Advanced Transmission Technology to Reduce Rates Act (Rep. Goldman)
- H.R. 9340, Ratepayer Protection Act (Reps. Evans (CO) and Castor)
- H.R. 6633, High-Capacity Grid Act (Rep. Fedorchak)
- H.R. 6529, Protecting Families from AI Data Center Energy Costs Act (Rep. Landsman)
- H.R. 2986, Expediting Generator Interconnection Procedures Act of 2025 (Rep. Castor)
- H.R. 9338, Pipeline Safety Authorization Act of 2026 (Rep. Weber)

II. LEGISLATION

A. H.R. 9332, Load Forecasting Enhancement Act (Reps. Balderson and Menendez)

This legislation would direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to hold regional joint boards with state public utility commissions to study and identify best practices for electric load forecasting that enhance the reliability and affordability of electric service to customers, and to develop best practices related to load forecasting. The legislation requires a

FERC report to Congress with recommendations from the joint boards and requires each state regulatory authority to consider incorporating the report's recommendations regarding load forecasting. Further, the legislation would amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) to include in state energy conservation plans procedures and programs to improve accuracy, oversight, and transparency to stakeholders of load forecasting by electric utilities. (Rep. Balderson introduced this legislation on June 18, 2026.)

B. H.R. 9339, Affordable Innovation for the Grid Act (Reps. Harshbarger and Mullin)

This legislation would direct the Department of Energy, in consultation with FERC and NERC, to study and report to Congress on opportunities to utilize AI and other high-performance computing technologies to enhance the capacity, reliable operation, and operational efficiency of the bulk power systems, and provide recommendations to facilitate adoption of such technologies with respect to grid operation. This legislation was updated from the subcommittee legislative hearing on April 29, 2026, to require the Department of Energy to consider AI applications for interconnection processes as part of their study. (Rep. Harshbarger introduced this legislation on June 18, 2026.)

C. H.R. 9335, Advanced Transmission Technology to Reduce Rates Act (Rep. Goldman)

This legislation would amend EPCA to require the Secretary of Energy to establish and maintain a publicly available clearinghouse that identifies advanced transmission technologies (ATT), analyses, and financial assistance related to the technologies, and would require the Secretary to provide technical assistance to utilities, transmission organizations, and states seeking such assistance concerning ATT. The legislation would enable states to include programs to facilitate deployment of ATT in state energy conservation plans. The legislation would provide that any DOE financial assistance for ATT would not be considered a major federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act. The legislation would require the Secretary to establish best practices for utilities to reduce the risk of wildfire ignition from the bulk power system. (Rep. Goldman introduced this legislation on June 18, 2026.)

D. H.R. 9340, Ratepayer Protection Act (Reps. Evans (CO) and Castor)

This legislation would amend Section 111(d) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) to require each state regulatory authority to consider establishing a large-load standard to provide that a rate charged, or related agreement entered into, by an electric utility for providing electric service to a large-load customer shall recover the full, incremental cost of any generation, transmission, or distribution upgrade necessary to serve the load of such customer and to provide for financial assurances to cover such upgrades. The legislation would define large-load customers as non-residential electric consumers requesting electric energy for one or more facilities at a site or campus with peak demand of 100 megawatts or more. (Rep. Evans introduced this legislation on June 18, 2026.)

E. H.R. 6633, High-Capacity Grid Act (Rep. Fedorchak)

This legislation would direct FERC to establish a best-available transmission conductor standard and to apply the standard to new FERC jurisdictional transmission lines and upgrades, modifications, or replacements. The legislation would establish that a utility is precluded from recovering any costs for conductors, except for conductors meeting the standard, unless the utility can demonstrate that use of such conductors is not prudent and the associated costs are not just and reasonable. (Rep. Fedorchak introduced this legislation on December 11, 2025.)

F. H.R. 6529, Protecting Families from AI Data Center Energy Costs Act (Rep. Landsman)

This legislation would require FERC to hold a Commissioner-led technical conference on strategies and rate structures for protecting residential and small commercial ratepayers from increased costs associated with large loads. Participants would include DOE, utilities, transmission providers, state regulators, consumer advocates, and large loads. FERC would report to Congress on recommendations and best practices resulting from the conference. (Rep. Landsman introduced this legislation on December 12, 2025.)

G. H.R. 2986, Expediting Generator Interconnection Procedures Act of 2025 (Rep. Castor)

This legislation would direct FERC to promulgate regulations that accelerate interconnection requests for electric generation and storage resources to the transmission system. The bill would require that transmission providers improve modeling accuracy of each resource and implement transparency measures to ensure timely and cost-conscious network upgrades. The bill would also require that transmission providers employ best practices for management of the interconnection queue, including the use of advanced computing technologies, automation, and standardized criteria. (Rep. Castor introduced this legislation on April 24, 2025.)

H. H.R. 9338, Pipeline Safety Authorization Act of 2026 (Rep. Weber)

This legislation would reauthorize PHMSA's pipeline safety program for 5 years and update policies and procedures to modernize PHMSA and improve safety.

Sec. 1 Short Title. This section provides that the Act may be cited as the "Pipeline Safety Authorization Act of 2026."

Sec. 2 Definitions. This section would modify the definition of "transporting gas" to clarify the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) regulatory authorities with respect to transfer and in-plant piping.

Sec. 3. Minimum Safety Standards. This section would require PHMSA to consider the "safety and economic benefits within the United States" when conducting cost-benefit analysis for proposed regulations.

Sec. 4. Opportunity for Formal Hearing. This section would provide an opportunity for pipeline operators that have been issued a notice of enforcement from PHMSA to have an on-the-record hearing conducted by an administrative law judge. An operator must prove that compliance with the enforcement action is more than $125,000, or there must be a proposed civil penalty of $125,000 or more to have the opportunity for a formal hearing. The section would also require the Secretary of Transportation to establish protocols for hearings under this section to ensure orderly process and protection of confidential information.

Sec. 5. Special Permit Program. This section would require that any terms placed on safety waivers (special permits) are specific to the pipeline safety regulation being waived and would establish timelines for consideration of special permit applications. The section would also mandate a report to Congress on the status of safety waivers sought under the special permit program and directs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to provide a report on PHMSA's implementation of the provision.

Sec. 6. Strengthening Penalties for Pipeline Safety Violations. This section would strengthen penalties for "damaging, destroying, or impairing the operation of" pipeline facilities or pipeline facilities under construction.

Sec. 7. Authorization Levels. This section would reauthorize PHMSA's pipeline safety program for five years.

Sec. 8. Pipeline Safety Voluntary Information-Sharing Program. This section would direct PHMSA to establish a voluntary information sharing system to gather, evaluate, and quantify critical pipeline safety data and information to improve safety.

Sec. 9. Excavation Damage Prevention. This section would update PHMSA's assessment criteria for State Damage Prevention Programs and would describe additional leading practices that state one-call programs should consider implementing to prevent excavation damage to pipelines and other underground utilities.

Sec. 10. Civil Penalties. This section would raise PHMSA's maximum civil penalty for a violation from $200,000 to $341,200 and raise the maximum civil penalty for a series of violations from $2,000,000 to $3,412,000.

Sec. 11. User Fees. This section would clarify that user fees collected from pipeline operators by PHMSA are to remain in the Pipeline Safety Fund until they are expended and not to be used for other purposes. (Rep. Weber introduced this legislation on June 18, 2026.)

III. STAFF CONTACTS

For any questions regarding this hearing, please contact Mary Martin, Peter Spencer, Andrew Furman, Arthur Speck, or Calvin Huggins of the Majority Committee Staff at (202) 225-3641.