

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

October 30, 2017

Mr. John Hughes
President and CEO
Electricity Consumers Resource Council
1111 19th Street, N.W.; Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Hughes:

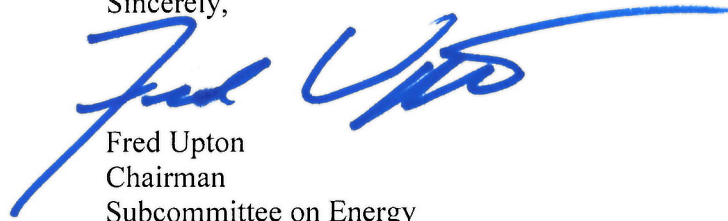
Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy on Thursday, October 5, 2017, to testify at the hearing entitled "Powering America: Consumer Oriented Perspectives on Improving the Nation's Electricity Markets."

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 Monday, November 13, 2017. Your responses should be mailed to Allie Bury, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Allie.Bury@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 testified that “FERC does not properly assign costs of new or upgraded transmission facilities to the ultimate beneficiaries of those lines.” However, isn’t equitable cost allocation one of the primary goals of FERC’s Order No. 1000? What is your opinion of the Order 1000 reforms?

The Honorable Robert Latta

1. In your testimony, you explain how NERC performs a critical role in real-time situational awareness and information sharing to protect critical electric infrastructure.
 - a. Do you have examples of how this real-time situational awareness and has helped protect the grid?
2. Can you talk more about the Critical Infrastructure Protection Standards that FERC and NERC have worked together on? Specifically, could you talk about the tiered approach to cybersecurity that utilities began to implement in 2016?

The Honorable Richard Hudson

1. Mr. Hughes, as the Subcommittee has looked at empowering consumers throughout the Powering America hearings, one of the important issues we’ve seen is fairness and transparency in the electricity rates that consumers pay. Unfortunately, ratepayers are increasingly being forced to finance premium and unnecessary technologies for reasons that have little to do with generating cheap and reliable electricity.

I introduced H.R. 1572, the “Ratepayer Fairness Act,” which amends PURPA section 111(d) to require that state public utility commissions consider a fair and transparent process when reviewing requests to subsidize “customer-side technologies” – or technologies that only benefit a few users, but are paid for by everyone else.

In your testimony, you mention that consumer interests are consistently underrepresented in the RTO/ISO stakeholder processes.

- a. How would you improve the stakeholder process?
- b. What more can we do to increase transparency for consumers?