U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Energy
"AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers."
April 29, 2026
Documents for the Record

1. April 28, 2026, A letter from the Steel Manufactures Association (SMA) addressed to Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.
2. April 28, 2026, A letter from American Public Power Association addressed to Chairman Guthrie, Chairman Latta, Ranking Member Pallone and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.
3. April 29, 2026, A letter from the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) addressed to Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.
4. April 27, 2026, A letter from Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES) addressed to Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone, submitted by the Majority.
5. April 28, 2026, A letter from Electricity Customer Alliance addressed to Chairman Guthrie, Chairman Latta, Ranking Member Pallone and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.
6. April 29, 2026, A letter from American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) addressed to Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.
7. April 28, 2026, A letter from BOMA International addressed to Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.
8. April 27, 2026, A letter from National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) addressed to Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.
9. April 22, 2026, A Letter from the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) addressed to Chairman Lee and Ranking Member Heinrich, submitted by the Majority
10. April 29, 2026, A letter from TechNet addressed to Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by Majority.
11. April 29, 2026, A letter from Americans for Prosperity to Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone, submitted by Majority.
12. April 29, 2026, A letter from HITACHI to Chairman Guthrie, Chairman Latta, Ranking Member Pallone, and Ranking Member Castor, submitted by Majority.
13. April 29, 2026, A letter from Power for Tomorrow to Chairman Guthrie, Chairman Latta, submitted by the Majority.
14. April 28, 2026, A letter from BOMA International to Chairman Latta, Ranking Member Castor, submitted by the Majority.

Stands for American Steel.

Steel Manufacturers Association
1150 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 201
Washington, DC 20036

Brandon Farris
Executive Vice President

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Robert E. Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor:

The Steel Manufacturers Association appreciates the opportunity to provide a statement for the record for the Subcommittee's hearing, entitled "AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers."

SMA stands for American steel. Our members operate in communities across the country and range from the nation's largest publicly traded steel producers to single-facility, family-owned businesses. Steel manufacturers generate $149.4 billion in annual economic impact, employing 87,266 men and women in community-sustaining jobs at an average annual wage of $142,730. They create the essential material that underpins American industry and national security.

Steel manufacturers are investing in America's communities, deploying $25 billion in capital here in the U.S. to modernize, expand, and construct facilities. With this investment comes the need for affordable, reliable power. Each electric arc furnace operates a load between 40 to 200 megawatts per mill, with electricity being one of the highest costs of steel production. With more than 100 mills nationwide, our industry is drawing up to 10-11 gigawatts at peak production across all facilities. The steel industry's power needs will only rise as significant expansion plans move forward.

Alarmingly, the United States is entering a full-blown electricity crisis, concurrent with efforts to reshore the nation's manufacturing base. In 2025, the nation's largest regional power market saw wholesale electricity prices surge by a staggering 56 percent. Within the PJM footprint, the steel industry supports more than 56,000 jobs and generates approximately

$94 billion in annual economic activity. And the pressure is building. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) projects a 4 percent increase in electricity demand through 2027, the largest four-year growth in more than 25 years. PJM is forecasting its peak summer demand to grow from 161,000MW to 241,000MW in the next 15 years, a 50 percent increase. For the American steel industry and manufacturing in general to grow in the U.S., policymakers must accelerate the deployment of new generation and transmission.

There are concrete steps that the Subcommittee and Congress may take in the near term to increase energy availability and affordability. For example, enacting provisions in the CLEAR Act, the FIRE Act, the SPEED Act, the PERMIT Act, the ESA Amendments Act, and other legislation as part of comprehensive permitting reform, sending them to the President's desk. Such reform should be technologically-agnostic, advancing power generation of every kind, while giving priority to energy that is affordable, reliable, and dispatchable. Furthermore, policymakers can leverage existing authorities such as the Department of Energy's loan programs to make critical system improvements and secure energy supply chains. This support should recognize steel as a foundational input across every form of energy production, ensuring technological neutrality and maintaining a level playing field for critical materials.

Without immediate action, rising electricity costs and potential scare availability will erode industrial competitiveness, weaken supply chains, and put long-term economic and national security at risk. Steel manufacturers are committed to working with Congress and the administration to grow American energy, for the benefit of our communities and our country's industrial resurgence. Thank you for holding this important hearing.

Sincerely,

Brandon Farris
Executive Vice President
Steel Manufacturers Association

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
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The Honorable Frank Pallone
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The Honorable Bob Latta
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The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy
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Dear Chairman Guthrie, Ranking Member Pallone, Chairman Latta, and Ranking Member Castor:

The American Public Power Association (APPA) appreciates the opportunity to submit a letter ahead of the hearing titled, "AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers." APPA appreciates the committee's work to support reliable and affordable electricity even with rapidly rising demand.

APPA is the national trade organization representing the interests of the nation's 2,000 not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities. Public power utilities are in every state except Hawaii. They collectively serve over 55 million people in 49 states and five U.S. territories, and account for 15 percent of all sales of electric energy (kilowatt-hours) to end-use consumers. Public power utilities are load-serving entities, with the primary goal of providing the communities they serve with safe, reliable electric service at the lowest reasonable cost, consistent with good environmental stewardship. This orientation aligns the interests of the utilities with the long-term interests of the residents and businesses in their communities.

Demand Growth & Data Centers
After decades of relatively flat load growth for the electric industry, manufacturing demand, electrification, and data center deployment are driving a new era of load growth. Data centers bring a highly localized, large load into a utility's service territory. While overall demand from data centers is growing and is projected to continue, nationally, the average individual data center load doubled from 150 to 300 megawatts (MW) between 2023 and 2024.[1]

This unprecedented growth in demand from data centers is creating not only national reliability and affordability challenges, but also local, utility-specific challenges and opportunities.

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[1] Seiple, C. (2024, October). Gridlock: The demand dilemma facing the US power industry. Wood Mackenzie. www.woodmac.com/horizons/gridlock-demand-dilemma-facing-us-power-industry

APPA agrees with the committee that it is imperative to find solutions that will allow public power utilities to build the grid and generation infrastructure needed to serve data centers in a manner that does not negatively impact grid reliability or the affordability of electricity for existing public power customers.

Reliability
The need to bring on new, reliable generation resources and to prevent the premature retirement of existing ones has never been more critical. Public power utilities need to know that federal policies will support, not hinder, their efforts to continue providing reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity to the communities they serve.

This committee and the U.S. House of Representatives have already taken a key step towards increasing regulatory certainty and ensuring that federal regulations do not impose significant harm on an already constrained electric grid by passing H.R. 3616, the Reliable Power Act. APPA will continue to advocate for the Reliable Power Act to pass in the Senate and be signed into law.

Federal Permitting
Projects requiring federal permits face extraordinary delays in getting built, regularly taking years to complete reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other federal permitting requirements. Unnecessary delays make it more challenging and expensive for utilities to bring on the generation, distribution, and transmission infrastructure needed to maintain reliability for existing customers and to meet growing demand. APPA continues to advocate for pragmatic changes that would streamline the federal permitting process, provide clearer federal guidance, and produce timelier decisions.

Specifically, APPA has endorsed H.R. 4776, the SPEED Act, H.R. 3898, the PERMIT Act, and H.R. 471, the Fix Our Forests Act, which have all been passed by the U.S. House of Representatives and will reduce permitting delays related to NEPA, the Clean Water Act, and for wildfire prevention, respectively. APPA supports and encourages the House to take up and pass H.R. 1897, the ESA Amendments Act of 2025, to streamline the Endangered Species Act and further improve the federal permitting process.

Technical Assistance / Load Forecasting
The Load Forecasting Enhancement Act, authored by Representative Balderson, aims to address the challenges of load forecasting in an uncertain and rapidly evolving landscape. APPA appreciates that this bill, which focuses on best practices for regional load forecasting rather than on individual electric utilities' load forecasting, would only apply the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act's “must consider” requirements under section 111(d) to state regulatory bodies and not “non-regulated electric utilities,” including individual public power utilities. Joint action agencies and individual public power utilities, especially smaller, less-resourced ones, could benefit from federal support to strengthen their existing load forecasting, especially through technical assistance and support from the Department of Energy (DOE) or the National Labs.

Protecting Customers
Public power utilities care deeply about electricity affordability and share the committee’s focus on protecting existing customers from the costs of serving data centers. Serving data centers raises many questions, from power supply, ratemaking, and interconnection. APPA believes there must be appropriate flexibility so public power utilities can continue to develop and refine their own policies to enable data

center development in a way that best protects their existing customers and their local community's objectives.

To ensure customers are protected, it is crucial to have frequent and ongoing stakeholder engagement, including, but not limited to, a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) technical conference, as required by H.R. 6529, the Protecting Families from AI Data Center Energy Costs Act, authored by Representative Landsman.

APPA supports the goals of the Ratepayer Protection Act but does not support use of section 111(d) of PURPA to achieve that goal. The bill would create a new "must consider" requirement for the consideration of "Standards for Large-Load Customers," including rates designed to recover from the large load customer the full, incremental cost of any generation, transmission, or distribution upgrades necessary to serve the large load customer and financial contributions or assurances ahead of the utility making any upgrades to serve the large load customer. APPA does not support new mandates under section 111(d), which unless modified, apply to both state regulatory bodies and individual public power utilities. Around the country, public power utilities have already finalized rates, terms, and conditions for bringing on new data centers to recover costs and protect existing customers from any negative billing impacts, and many others are actively developing such policies. A "must consider" of this type is not necessary to spur public power utilities to act on this crucial issue and would be, at best, duplicative of ongoing efforts, or at worst could slow down processes already underway.

Transmission/Advanced Transmission Technologies

Inadequate attention has been paid to how skyrocketing transmission costs are contributing to electricity affordability. However, just like generation, investment in transmission infrastructure will be needed to meet data center demand. APPA supports building new electric transmission infrastructure where it is cost-effective and offers clear, quantifiable benefits to the consumers who will pay the costs.

Joint ownership is one of the most constructive ways to build needed transmission while protecting affordability and improving project success. Many of the challenges involved in transmission planning, sitting, and cost allocation could be mitigated if new transmission lines were jointly owned, with partial ownership by public power utilities. Joint ownership allows all load-serving entities in the relevant footprint—including public power utilities—to participate in the ownership and development of new transmission projects. Joint ownership produces a collaborative and inclusive process for planning, development, and financing that can result in a more efficient grid serving data center demand reliably. It can eliminate weak spots, make it easier to garner support for transmission projects, lay a foundation for prompt siting, help manage cost-allocation issues by demonstrating multiple benefits, and attract political support for state and local approvals. For public power utilities facing rising transmission charges, joint ownership can also provide a hedge against those costs. FERC and Congress should pursue policies to promote public power joint ownership where feasible.

Specifically, FERC could require, before granting any transmission incentives or other benefits, a public utility (as defined in the Federal Power Act) to demonstrate that it has made an offer to transmission-dependent load serving entities within the relevant footprint to participate in the project. FERC could also make joint ownership a positive factor in selecting projects for regional transmission plans.

Congress could condition any new incentive under section 219 of the Federal Power Act on the utility having offered joint ownership. Additionally, should Congress consider new rules around transmission

planning, Congress should include statutory language directing FERC to prioritize projects that are jointly owned.

Beyond the development of new transmission, there are several technologies – power flow controls, switching equipment, storage technologies, advanced line rating management technologies, and high-performance conductors – that can improve the effectiveness of the existing bulk power system. However, these technologies should be deployed only where they provide clear customer benefits and can be implemented without impacting safe and reliable electric service.

The Advanced Transmission Technology to Reduce Rates Act correctly relies on technical information rather than mandates, to support the deployment of grid-enhancing technologies. Technical support from DOE, including information on grid reliability and customer costs, could help public power utilities make informed decisions and better determine what advanced transmission technologies make technical and financial sense for their utilities.

Representative Fedorchak's H.R. 6633, the High-Capacity Grid Act, includes an innovative approach that uses prudence-burden shifting to incentivize transmission owners to adopt the most cost-effective, reliable conductor technology. However, APPA has concerns that this bill would inadvertently discourage transmission owners from choosing the best technology for each specific project if FERC were to issue a rule that requires a *single* type of conductor for all projects. APPA recommends allowing FERC greater flexibility in defining "best-available transmission conductor" to recognize that the use cases and cost-effectiveness of these solutions are not one-size-fits-all.

Tax and Regulatory Challenges

While outside the committee's jurisdiction, APPA also believes that current Treasury regulations hinder the ability of public power utilities to accommodate new large loads while protecting existing customers. Treasury regulations currently restrict public power utilities from creating customized contracts with large load customers that last longer than three years. This restriction is far too short for public power utilities to ensure that existing customers are not left holding the bag for investments made to accommodate new large loads. APPA, in conjunction with the Large Public Power Council, is asking the Treasury Department to amend its regulations to allow public power utilities to lock large load customers into 20-year contracts, ensuring that large customers do not leave existing customers with stranded assets.[2] We are also asking Treasury to clarify rules allowing public power utilities to acquire existing generation to serve new large load customers without putting the tax-exempt status of their debt at risk. These changes, which are in line with the stated goals of the administration and both parties in Congress of protecting ratepayers from shouldering increased costs due to new large loads, are absolutely critical to public power utilities' ability to achieve those goals. While both can be achieved without a change in law, any encouragement legislators can provide to Treasury to make these changes quickly would be appreciated.

Opportunities

Public power utilities have a unique role to play in serving data centers. Because public power utilities are community-owned and locally governed, support from local leaders for new data centers can help alleviate local barriers to deployment. Data centers not only need power, but also require water and other utility services, which many public power utilities also provide. In addition to federal permitting, data

[2] All members of the Large Public Power Council are APPA members.

center developers also need to navigate local siting and permitting requirements. As instrumentalities of state and local governments, public power utilities can participate in whole-of-government efforts to enable data centers to successfully—and at the necessary speed—locate in communities seeking to attract such investment.

To enable public power utilities to continue meeting rising demand from data centers and maintain reliable, affordable service for their existing customers, Congress must resist adopting one-size-fits-all policies for data centers. Instead, Congress has an opportunity to provide appropriate flexibility, enact technology-neutral permitting reform, create opportunities for federal technical assistance in load forecasting and transmission technologies, and remove regulatory burdens, including private use rules, to help public power utilities as they work to provide reliable and affordable power to your constituents.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to continuing to work with you to meet new power demand while protecting customers.

Sincerely,

Desmarie Waterhouse
Senior Vice President, Advocacy and Communications & General Counsel

April 29, 2026

The Honorable Bob Latta
Chairman
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Energy
2123 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Energy
2323 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor,

On behalf of the **National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)** and our members, I write to thank you for convening the Subcommittee on Energy hearing, *"AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers."* The legislation under review addresses some of the most consequential infrastructure challenges facing our nation, and NECA is proud to support the Subcommittee's work to ensure the grid can meet surging electricity demand while protecting the ratepayers who depend on it.

NECA represents 4,500 union electrical contractors that employ hundreds of thousands of electrical workers across the country. NECA contractors are on the front lines of the capital construction projects shaping the nation's energy future. In addition to building critical facilities like hospitals, schools, and military installations, our members build and maintain the transmission lines, substations, distribution systems, and on-site electrical infrastructure that power the American economy.

The explosive growth of AI infrastructure is fundamentally reshaping electricity demand, and NECA contractors are building the facilities driving it. A conventional data center typically requires thousands of tons of copper and megawatts of dedicated power capacity. These projects involve extensive electrical scopes, including medium- and low-voltage distribution, switchgear, redundant power feeds, on-site generation, and new substation and transmission interconnections.

NECA members, employing union electrical workers, are delivering projects of this kind across the country, and the pace is accelerating. The demand projections cited in the Committee's memorandum, including EIA's finding that data center energy use could account for 9.1 percent of all U.S. electricity consumption by the end of the decade, align with what our contractors are seeing on the ground.

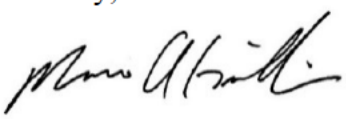
The electrical infrastructure needed to meet rising energy demand will require a massive, sustained deployment of skilled electrical workers, and NECA stands ready to deliver that workforce. Demand for electricians is growing much faster than the overall labor market. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates approximately 81,000 job openings for electricians just to meet our current needs and replace electricians who leave3 the job or retire. NECA is training the next generation of electrical workers at Joint Apprenticeship Training Committees, run jointly between a NECA Chapter and an International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) post. NECA looks forward to continuing to engage the Committee, along with your partners on other Committees of jurisdiction, to address workforce challenges in the electrical industry.

In addition, new generation and transmission capacity is lagging, and existing transmission regulatory constraints continue to be a major bottleneck. NECA members experience these constraints firsthand when executing large interconnection projects, navigating utility planning processes, and working to bring new capacity online on accelerated timelines. Our contractors are also finding this includes when an energy production and transmission facility is being constructed to power a data center and mitigate impacts on existing grid infrastructure and ratepayers. To that end, NECA applauds efforts to bring policy clarity, promote accurate load forecasting, modernize transmission standards, and, ultimately, pass transmission-related permitting reform.

While NECA is supportive of the general goal of the hearing today and is encouraged by the Committee's engagement on data center construction, **we would like to highlight for particular support the High-Capacity Grid Act.** H.R.6633 would modernize transmission infrastructure and lower costs, removing some of the existing burdens on our aging electrical grid.

Thank you again for your leadership on this issue and for the opportunity to provide NECA's perspective for the hearing record. We look forward to working with Congress to advance policies that deliver a more reliable, affordable, and future-ready grid for all.

Sincerely,



Marco A. Giamberardino, MPA
Chief Communications Officer
National Electrical Contractors Association

CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

April 27, 2026

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES), I write today in strong support of H.R. 6633, the High-Capacity Grid Act, introduced by Representative Julie Fedorchak (R-ND). CRES is a non-profit dedicated to supporting conservative solutions to address our nation's energy, economic and environmental security while ensuring America retains its global competitive edge.

America's aging power grid faces rapidly increasing electricity demand, yet current standards often fail to incentivize the deployment of advanced, efficient technologies. The High-Capacity Grid Act offers a practical, cost-conscious solution by directing the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish a best-available transmission conductor standard. By requiring the use of the highest-capacity, highest-efficiency and lowest-sag conductors for interstate transmission projects, this legislation maximizes the potential of our existing infrastructure. This approach unlocks significant transmission capacity without the prohibitive costs, delays and permitting challenges of building entirely new lines, ultimately strengthening grid reliability, improving wildfire resilience, and lowering costs for American ratepayers.

CRES is proud to endorse the High-Capacity Grid Act and encourages favorable consideration and swift passage of the bill.

Sincerely,

Heather Reams

Heather Reams
CRES President

ELECTRICITY CUSTOMER ALLIANCE

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Chairman
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
The Honorable Bob Latta, Chairman
The Honorable Kathy Castor, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
House Committee on Energy and Commerce

Dear Chairman Guthrie, Ranking Member Pallone, Chairman Latta, and Ranking Member Castor:

On behalf of the Electricity Customer Alliance (ECA) and the undersigned organizations representing a broad cross-section of America's electricity customers—including large industrial, manufacturing, technology, and commercial users—we write to express our gratitude to the Committee for initiating an important dialogue on balancing new electric power demands with rising affordability challenges by scheduling the April 29, 2026, subcommittee legislative hearing, "AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers."

This hearing comes at a critical moment. Electricity demand is accelerating due to advanced manufacturing, data infrastructure, and broader economic growth. At the same time, customers across sectors are facing rising costs, delays in accessing power, and increasing uncertainty about how the grid will evolve to meet these needs and who will pay the costs of that evolution. We commend the Committee for its leadership in examining legislative solutions to ensure the electric system can support growth while protecting affordability for all ratepayers.

We urge Congress to build on this momentum by advancing targeted, bipartisan reforms that reflect a customer-centric approach to grid policy. Specifically, we encourage the Committee to prioritize actions in five key areas:

1. Focus on Customer Affordability and Enhancing Transparency of Costs

To achieve the nation's economic growth and national security objectives, affordability of energy for customers and increased transparency into electricity cost drivers and ratemaking must be a central focus. Recent research from the national laboratories indicates that the causes of these rate increases are many—including increased distribution and local transmission spending, the impacts of wildfire and natural disasters, and rising fuel costs—and vary by state and region. That research also shows that effective planning to integrate new large loads can help drive down rates for existing customers. But uncertainty about the scope and timing of load growth, and rising customer concerns about the impact of new large customer demand on their bills and the transparency of how the costs of

meeting that demand are incurred and allocated, are compounding challenges to reducing energy costs and building the grid America needs to support long-term economic and national security.

We commend the Committee for examining many of these critical issues in this hearing. The commitments of large load customers, embodied in the Administration's "Ratepayer Protection Pledge" and individual public vows of some of the nation's largest electricity customers to pay all the costs of providing service to them, require additional action from Congress to be implementable. The draft "Ratepayer Protection Act," with continued refinements, could provide an important next step in ensuring that costs are appropriately and transparently allocated to large load customers consistent with longstanding cost causation principles. We also strongly support the Committee's consideration of the draft "Load Forecasting Enhancement Act," which would initiate much needed federal and state efforts to improve load forecasts and remedy inflated and uncertain projections that drive up rates and increase the risk of stranded costs.

Moving forward, Congress should continue to focus its work on targeting the drivers of rising electricity rates, increasing effective regulatory oversight of utility spending, and improving transparency of the cost inputs to electricity rates and how those costs are allocated to customers. Fostering greater coordination between federal and state policymakers and regulators on allocating the costs of generation capacity and transmission infrastructure and improving the transparency of those costs and what is driving them, will also be essential. We look forward to working with the Committee on additional measures needed to improve federal-state coordination and collaboration on cost and ratemaking transparency.

2. Improve Grid Planning and Strengthen Natural Gas and Electric Transmission Development

Well-planned regional and interregional transmission projects, for both natural gas and electricity, are essential to meeting growing electricity demand, supporting national security and economic competitiveness, and reducing long-term costs for customers. The Committee's passage of H.R. 3668, the "Improving Interagency Coordination for Pipeline Reviews Act," marks an important next step for ensuring the continued cost-effective and efficient development of interstate natural gas pipelines. Unfortunately, the current planning and cost allocation frameworks for electric transmission continue to struggle to facilitate the construction of needed electric transmission infrastructure, often favoring inefficient incremental, local investments over more efficient, multi-value regional and interregional solutions.

Congress should:

- Support reforms that enable forward-looking, scenario-based electric transmission planning that incorporates large load growth and identifies cost-effective regional and interregional transmission solutions to meet identified needs;
- Advance common-sense siting and permitting reforms to accelerate the development of critical grid and pipeline infrastructure; and

- Protect ratepayers by ensuring that all costs of system upgrades are allocated subject to long-standing cost-causation principles and that ratemaking and cost allocation mechanisms are transparent to customers.

These efforts are essential to ensuring that grid expansion is cost-effective, strategically targeted, and aligned with the needs of customers and the broader economy.

3. Accelerate Deployment of Advanced Transmission Technologies

In the near term, customers need solutions that can deliver additional capacity from the existing system without waiting for long development timelines. Advanced transmission technologies—including grid-enhancing technologies (GETs) and advanced high-capacity conductors—can increase system capacity, improve reliability, and reduce congestion more quickly and at relatively low cost.

We support federal and state efforts to:

- Accelerate the deployment of proven, near-term capacity-enhancing technologies;
- Ensure these technologies are incorporated into planning and operational practices; and
- Promote transparency around their cost-effectiveness and performance.

Maximizing the existing grid is one of the most immediate and cost-effective tools available to support growing demand while protecting ratepayers.

4. Enable Flexible, Customer-Led Power Solutions

As demand grows, customers are increasingly seeking to invest in flexible, on-site and customer-driven energy solutions to meet their needs while reducing pressure on the broader system. Over the past 18 months, 70% of hyperscale developers needing more than 100 MW of additional power have turned to onsite power to address the energy needs of their project. Policies that enable flexible approaches to "bring your own generation" can accelerate access to power and help avoid unnecessary cost shifts to other customers.

Congress should support:

- Policies that enable customer-sited generation, co-location, and other "bring your own power" solutions;
- Frameworks that recognize and appropriately value customer-provided flexibility and reliability contributions; and
- Efforts to ensure these solutions complement, rather than undermine, long-term grid integration.

These approaches can serve as a critical bridge to meet near-term demand while broader infrastructure investments are planned and developed in a way that maximizes cost-efficiency for customers.

5. Reform Interconnection Processes and Address Inefficient Grid Spending

Delays and inefficiencies in generator interconnection processes are slowing the addition of new power generation resources of all types and increasing costs for customers. At the same time, rapidly rising local transmission costs are contributing to affordability challenges without always delivering commensurate system-wide benefits.

We encourage Congress to:

- Advance reforms that streamline and modernize interconnection processes, including allowing generators to interconnect on an as-available basis and improving data availability to generator interconnection customers to speed study processes;
- Promote the use of innovative technologies, including automation and artificial intelligence tools, to improve queue management, reliability, and system planning; and
- Examine policies to address the imbalance between local transmission spending and more efficient regional and interregional investments.

A more efficient, transparent, and forward-looking approach to both interconnection and transmission investment is essential to delivering cost-effective outcomes for customers.

Conclusion

The Subcommittee's upcoming hearing is an important step toward modernizing the electric grid to meet the demands of a growing economy while protecting ratepayers. We encourage the Committee to continue advancing pragmatic, bipartisan solutions that improve planning, accelerate deployment of new technologies, enable customer flexibility, and ensure efficient investment in grid infrastructure.

Electricity customers, who ultimately bear the costs of the system, must have a central voice in shaping these outcomes. We stand ready to work with the Committee and other stakeholders to advance policies that support affordability, reliability, and American economic growth.

Thank you for your leadership on these critical issues.

Sincerely,
Electricity Customer Alliance (ECA)

AFSCME
We Make America Happen

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

TEL FAX TDD WEB

- safeguard workers' voices on the job and involvement in decisions about the use of AI in the workplace
- ensure that AI contributes to, rather than detracts from, job quality by limiting its use to instances in which it complements, not replaces, workers
- prevent and mitigate job displacement through workforce training in new AI-driven opportunities and provide upskilling and benefits, including income replacement, for workers whose jobs are affected
- prevent AI from being used to de-skill public service work and privatize public sector jobs
- protect workers' civil rights and liberties, including freedom from workplace surveillance and discrimination, and provide data privacy protections for workers
- prohibit the use of AI to undermine workers' rights to engage in union activity
- ensure that employment-related decisions are made by humans
- mitigate the risk of misinformation and disinformation by requiring ethical guidelines and transparency regarding the use of AI-generated content
- provide oversight, transparency and accountability about the use of AI in the workplace and its impact on workers
- protect against the misuse of AI in public benefits programs, including by requiring rights-determining decisions to be made by humans and that there are strict guardrails for and meaningful human oversight of any AI used.

Recently, Big Tech has pushed an effort to convince Congress to preempt state laws that regulate AI. Unregulated AI can have disastrous consequences for workers, consumers and families. AI industry is evolving rapidly, with products released to the public before their developers even understand how their products work and the harm they can cause. It would be profoundly short-sighted to preempt worker, consumer and environmental protections that are obviously needed now and for which future needs will undoubtedly arise as AI continues to develop. With AI bills now introduced or AI laws enacted in nearly every state, preempting state laws would also undermine the will of the people and states' authority.

Like any technological advancement, AI comes with great risk if not managed properly. Therefore, as this subcommittee debates AI policy, particularly as it relates to data centers, we urge you to keep the impact on working people front and center in your deliberations. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth S. Watson
Director of Federal Government Affairs

ESW/JW:lm

cc: Members of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy

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BOMA 2026

BOMA International Conference & Expo
June 27-30, 2026
Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center
Long Beach, CA

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Bob Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor:

On behalf of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International, I write to thank the Subcommittee on Energy for its leadership in holding the hearing "AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers."

The race to AI dominance is driving rapid growth in artificial intelligence, creating new commercial real estate opportunities—particularly in data center investment and development—while placing increasing demands on the nation's electric grid and the ratepayers it serves.

BOMA represents over 16,000 members, responsible for the ownership, investment, and management of over 8.6 billion square feet of commercial real estate, including members involved in data center investment and development and others who own and operate commercial buildings reliant on affordable and reliable electricity. Additionally, BOMA local associations support 1.7 million jobs and generate $75 billion in salaries and income and contribute $148 billion to the national economy.

BOMA recognizes the important role that artificial intelligence and data infrastructure play in advancing innovation, productivity, and U.S. competitiveness. At the same time, rapid growth in new, energy-intensive loads is placing added pressure on an electric grid already facing reliability, capacity, and planning challenges, further accelerating the need for new generation, transmission, and distribution investments.

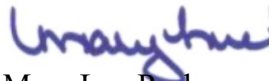
Commercial building owners are already managing rising energy costs through proven programs like ENERGY STAR® to identify where improvements can be made in order to reduce demand and support grid reliability.

BOMA supports bipartisan efforts to strengthen grid reliability and capacity while protecting ratepayers, including initiatives that improve load forecasting, support prudent grid and transmission planning, and promote fair and transparent cost allocation. Addressing these issues through thoughtful, fact-based oversight—such as this hearing—is essential to balancing continued innovation with affordability and reliability.

As the Subcommittee considers the legislation that is the subject of this hearing, or future legislation related to these issues, BOMA urges Members to advance policies that strengthen U.S. competitiveness in this new global race for AI leadership while carefully considering impacts to ratepayers and the electric grid.

Reliable and affordable electricity is foundational to commercial real estate and the communities it serves. BOMA appreciates the Subcommittee's bipartisan leadership on these issues and looks forward to collaborating with Members of both parties as these important discussions continue.

Sincerely,



Mary Lue Peck
President & COO

April 27, 2026

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Energy Subcommittee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Latta, Ranking Member Castor and members of the Energy Subcommittee:

I am reaching out from the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) to share support for the Energy Subcommittee's focus on energy price and demand concerns and enhancing the reliability and resiliency of the grid through the upcoming April 29 hearing. Ski areas support legislation that enhances grid reliability, promotes innovation to improve efficiency and distribution and enhances grid resilience to withstand challenges from increased demand and climate-related impacts.

Ski areas operate in remote locations where electric supply reliability is critical for our operations including chairlifts, snowmaking and other facilities like lodges and restaurants. Extreme weather events can result in interruptions, outages, and price spikes. As ski areas modernize their infrastructure and explore electrification of fleets, buildings, and operations, reliable grid capacity becomes even more important. Reliable power supports not only ski area operations but also the broader mountain economies that depend on tourism including hotels, restaurants, and local businesses.

Ski areas are doing their part by investing in energy efficiency upgrades, on-site clean energy, and infrastructure projects to help mitigate potential reliability concerns including transformer upgrades, working with local utilities and metering and sub-metering. Still, we need the macro-level support of federal legislation to increase transmission capacity and ensure grid reliability on a broader scale, especially in the mainly rural areas where we operate.

Ski areas place the highest priority on responsibly stewarding the land where we operate and ensuring these areas are protected for the enjoyment of generations to come. This past season was the most difficult weather environment that we have ever seen in the West. Climate change impacts ski areas far greater than we contribute to it, but we remain energized in our mitigation and resiliency work. We look forward to working with the Committee and other members of Congress to implement broad scale solutions to meet growing demand, increase grid reliability and resiliency and sustain the special landscapes that allow millions of people to enjoy the magic of mountain-based recreation experiences.

Best regards,

Courtney LaBrie
Director of Sustainability
National Ski Areas Association

NARUC

National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

April 22, 2026

The Honorable Mike Lee
Chairman
Senate Committee on Energy
and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Energy
and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Lee and Ranking Member Heinrich:

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is the national organization representing the state public service commissions that oversee utilities providing essential energy, telecommunications and water services in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories. NARUC members carry out their duties in the public interest and help shape the profile and substance of utility regulation in the United States. As Congress considers major legislation that could reform energy permitting processes, we urge the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to ensure that NARUC members' views are fully considered during your deliberations. State regulators stand ready to provide feedback on legislative proposals that could affect the states' ability to protect our shared constituents, especially those proposals that may preempt state authority to permit and site electric transmission projects.

NARUC agrees that meaningful federal permitting reform is important to addressing rising demand. The Committee has correctly focused on amending existing federal laws to help solve for the real and significant issues that have stifled energy delivery and contributed to rising electricity costs across the United States. Of particular note is possible reform of certain federal laws such as the National Environmental Policy Act which have too often unreasonably delayed infrastructure projects needed for the safe and reliable delivery of energy to consumers. So long as "permitting reform" is defined as streamlining federal processes that are negatively affecting the feasibility of necessary projects, members of your committee will likely find much support among the state regulatory community. However, if "permitting reform" is defined as preempting state oversight of infrastructure siting, then our members will largely view it as counterproductive to both efficiency and to the best interests of consumers and impacted landowners.

It is important to emphasize that delays to building energy infrastructure have largely been the result of federal agencies and processes, not state ones. Put simply, state siting

and permitting processes are generally working well relative to federal permitting. From 2020 through 2025, approximately 2,930 miles of new high-voltage (345 kV and above) transmission lines were built in the United States.[1]

Comparing the number of miles of electric transmission lines constructed in the U.S. (where states have jurisdiction) to the number of miles of interstate natural gas pipelines (where the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has jurisdiction) is illustrative. According to publicly available FERC data, the agency has authorized 1,329 miles of new pipelines total between 2020 and 2025.[2] Put another way, over twice as many miles of state-permitted high-voltage electric transmission lines were placed into service as compared to the miles of natural gas pipelines that have been permitted over the last six years. By-and-large, it is simply not the case that states are laggards compared to the federal government when it comes to efficiently permitting energy infrastructure.

In our experience, it is often not state regulatory processes that add undue delay to projects, it is the creation of a federal jurisdictional nexus. Under existing federal law, when a state-approved transmission project triggers this nexus, such as when a project crosses federally managed land, it means that federal statutes and agencies become involved. This in turn can lead to federal litigation and attendant delays. This is problematic anywhere federal public lands are involved, but is particularly noteworthy throughout the Western U.S. If Congress wishes to make improvements to infrastructure permitting, this is the place to start; to reform federal processes themselves, rather than preempting states.

State commissions wish to preserve cooperative federalism in the energy permitting space. Backstop siting authority already exists in federal law for the limited number of projects that may qualify for it. Legislation that further expands federal siting and which weakens the states' ability to oversee these major projects flies in the face of that spirit of cooperative federalism.

Moreover, even if Congress successfully reforms the federal permitting statutes that have hindered needed infrastructure projects, we strongly urge you to resist any effort to concentrate even more authority over local siting decisions in the federal government. The federal government generally, and the FERC specifically, are poorly situated to process electric transmission permits.

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[1] https://cms.ferc.gov/media/energy-infrastructure-update-december-2022; https://cms.ferc.gov/media/energy-infrastructure-update-october-2021-0; https://cms.ferc.gov/media/energy-infrastructure-update-january-2023-0; https://cms.ferc.gov/media/energy-infrastructure-update-december-2024-revised-data-april-22-2025; https://cms.ferc.gov/media/energy-infrastructure-update-december-2025-0

[2] https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/natural-gas/approved-major-pipeline-projects-1997-present

States use the permitting process to resolve landowner concerns with transmission developers. Giving this process to the FERC will undoubtedly hinder a landowner's ability to provide meaningful input. Electric transmission projects can be controversial wherever they are proposed, and frankly, electric transmission lines tend to engender greater landowner concerns than pipelines given their generally greater visual imposition on the landscape. But at least with state-led permitting, affected landowners, individuals and communities have access to a local process to have their concerns heard.

A federal process affords no such relief. Intensely impactful decisions that affect average Americans would be made at a faraway agency, by people who likely have no connection to the land or people living near where these major projects are proposed and constructed. Unlike project developers, these citizens do not have teams of representatives advocating for them at the FERC. They typically have only themselves to make themselves heard. With a state permitting process, these citizens have a better chance to make their voices heard, not only during the permitting process, but during the construction and operations phases also. When landowners feel sidelined, local resistance grows, which ultimately makes all needed projects more difficult to build. States are much better positioned to address and balance these local concerns.

Giving the FERC additional broad authority over permitting electric transmission lines would necessitate a major expansion of agency hiring since it would be assuming a new role that dwarfs the work now handled by its existing Office of Energy Projects. In total, state preemption will exacerbate the frustration felt by impacted communities, while straining an already overextended federal bureaucracy. The net effect will be longer delays in permitting rather than any sort of streamlined process.

NARUC appreciates your interest in these important matters and stands ready to assist your offices in crafting legislation that meets the national goal of ensuring that needed energy projects are built efficiently, while also ensuring that those individuals who live closest to the projects have their interests heard.

Sincerely,

Hon. Ann Rendahl
NARUC President
Commissioner, Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission

Tony Clark
Executive Director

TECHNET
THE VOICE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION

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April 29, 2026

The Honorable Bob Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: TechNet Support for H.R. 6633, the High-Capacity Grid Act

Dear Chairman Latta, and Ranking Member Castor,

On behalf of TechNet, I am writing to express our strong support for H.R. 6633, the "High-Capacity Grid Act," being considered during today's legislative hearing entitled, "AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers."

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents over five million employees and countless customers in the fields of information technology, artificial intelligence, e-commerce, the sharing and gig economies, advanced energy, cybersecurity, venture capital, and finance.

The U.S. is facing large-scale energy demand growth at a pace and scale that presents significant challenges to the current energy grid, potentially undermining American innovation and technological advancement. Solving this crisis requires a whole-of-government approach to streamline the pathway for bringing required energy infrastructure online.

H.R. 6633 advances these goals by establishing a best-available transmission conductor standard for new construction and the replacement or reconductoring of existing transmission lines. By defining these conductors based on their ability to provide the greatest feasible energy-carrying capacity and electrical efficiency, the bill

ensures the grid is equipped with 21st-century technology. Furthermore, the bill provides critical regulatory certainty by establishing a presumption of prudence for costs associated with these conductors, incentivizing the adoption of high-efficiency infrastructure.

Modernizing our grid is essential to maintaining America's technological superiority and global competitiveness. We urge the Subcommittee to advance H.R. 6633 to ensure our energy infrastructure catalyzes future innovation.

Sincerely,

Linda Moore
President and CEO

April 29th, 2026

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
Energy & Commerce Committee
2123 Rayburn House Office Building

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Energy & Commerce Committee
2123 Rayburn House Office Building

RE: Hearing: "AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers."

Dear Chairman Guthrie, Ranking Member Pallone, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Americans for Prosperity's grassroots activists nationwide, we applaud the Committee's hearing on artificial intelligence and the U.S. electric grid. As the Committee considers legislation on these issues, Congress has an important opportunity to advance policies that support both technological leadership and energy abundance.

Artificial intelligence and energy permitting reform should not be treated as competing priorities. For the American people, the development of artificial intelligence is key to America maintaining it dominate economic standing on the world stage. For American industry, reforming the broken federal permitting process to modernize and expand our electric grid ensures they can continue expanding and contributing to that economic growth. These are complementary goals, and shifting the conversation from scarcity to abundance is critical. As a baseline, it is impossible for our country to lead in next-generation technologies without energy systems capable of supporting growth.

Understandably, Americans are concerned about affordability, including rising electric bills. But policymakers should not respond to higher costs by blaming innovation or seeking to slow the growth of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence. Instead, Congress should examine the regulatory barriers within its jurisdiction that prevent entrepreneurs, utilities, and energy producers from building the infrastructure needed to lower costs and meet demand. **In fact, our recent polling confirmed that 85% of Americans believe that modernizing our energy regulations will be impactful in improving affordability.**

Every major technological leap has changed American life for the better, from the internal combustion engine and aviation to semiconductors, the internet, and now artificial intelligence. A policy of scarcity and blame will limit the resources needed for next-generation technologies and the spirit of innovation. While private industry is moving quickly to compete globally, much of America's electric grid remains constrained by outdated permitting systems and regulatory delays.

The answer is not to punish new technologies like artificial intelligence. The answer is to reform the rules that make it harder to build, connect, and deliver reliable power. If America wants innovation in health care, computing, transportation, manufacturing, and consumer technology, Congress must also ensure that innovators have access to affordable and reliable energy.

Recent experience with electric vehicles offers a useful lesson. The previous administration pushed rapid electrification while failing to address whether our permitting and infrastructure systems could support that transition. Automakers invested billions of dollars in electric vehicle platforms, yet the grid, charging infrastructure, and permitting processes were not prepared to meet those ambitions. Congress should not repeat that mistake with artificial intelligence.

As the Committee examines the relationship between data centers and the grid, Members should focus on policies that cultivate grid growth while allowing innovation to continue. Expert witnesses and grassroots ideas alike can help identify ways to reduce cost pressures on families without undermining American technological leadership. The United States should lead the development of artificial intelligence under the principles of innovation, abundance, and market competition. With the right reforms, American innovation can power the next century of economic growth, make consumer products more affordable and accessible, and strengthen the nation's global competitiveness.

We are grateful to Chairman Guthrie for his continued leadership in the discussion around reforming our broken permitting systems and processes. We encourage the Committee to bring a conversation about energy abundance to the forefront and reject the scarcity-and-blame paradigm.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Americans for Prosperity

HITACHI

April 29, 2026

The Honorable Bret Guthrie
Chairman
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bob Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Guthire, Ranking Member Pallone, Subcommittee Chairman Latta, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Castor:

Hitachi Energy welcomes the Energy and Commerce Committee's continued work to drive important policy discussions that are essential to securing an affordable, reliable domestic energy supply while supporting sustainable economic growth. We are particularly encouraged to see the Committee's strong interest in domestic manufacturing, its role in driving America's energy future, and its contribution in creating economic opportunities across the U.S. Hitachi Energy is a global technology leader with more than 100 years operating history in the U.S. We are the country's largest manufacturer of transformers and high-voltage equipment, employing approximately 7,000 people across thirteen major U.S locations, including nine manufacturing facilities.

Hitachi Energy is actively growing that presence and recently announced a historic investment of more than $1 billion to expand the production of critical electrical grid infrastructure in the United States. These investments, among the largest seen in the electrical industry nationally, include approximately $457 million for a new large power transformer facility in South Boston, VA, along with expansions of existing transformer factories in Alamo, TN and Bland, VA. We've also established a new facility for the development of dry-type transformers in Atkins, VA, are growing our high-voltage switchgear and breakers capabilities in Mount Pleasant, PA, and have established a new manufacturing site in Hunker, PA. The Hunker site brings our Pennsylvania footprint to three facilities strong.

AI is emerging as one of the most transformative technologies of the 21st century, offering a generational opportunity to enhance economic competitiveness, boost productivity, and unlock new scientific and technological frontiers. Building the most resilient AI-capable power system in the fastest time will set the pace for global AI leadership. The United States, China and Europe have all framed AI-capable power systems as central to their economic and geopolitical positions, reflecting their respective vision and competitiveness ambitions.

Local manufacturing in the U.S means we control our destiny, safeguarding our power supply and ensuring that the lights stay on for our homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure. It also helps us ensure that we win the AI race, achieve energy dominance, and achieve supply chain independence from China.

Strengthening the grid is critical to achieving these goals. It requires accelerating investment and fast-tracking permitting for critical grid infrastructure expansion while also ensuring environmental safeguards. We must modernize and bolster aging infrastructure, address rising electricity demand to alleviate persistent grid congestion, and ensure the resiliency of our nation's electrical system. Leveraging digitalization will improve real-time visibility and asset monitoring while enabling more dynamic control of power flows, better integration of distributed and utility-scale generation resources, and faster response to system disturbances.

Advancing policy that treats the grid as critical infrastructure by applying defense-level urgency to grid protection through the rapid deployment of new technologies is a clear priority. This involves the application of mandatory cybersecurity standards and a commitment to joint resilience planning. Securing supply chains for critical equipment remains essential to reducing exposure to global bottlenecks and improving affordability.

Project timing is essential in achieving these goals. It is the key factor that allows factories the lead time necessary to produce technologies, access a secure supply chain, train the workforce necessary to manufacture – and most importantly invest in growing domestically available technologies. The Committee and other governing organizations play a crucial role in advancing appropriate public policies that provide the industry clear understanding of requirements, timelines, and certainty for those projects that meet these requirements. Looking ahead, policies that drive longer-term grid development plans are necessary (e.g., up to 20 or 25 years) and ultimately will work to significantly shorten recovery times during disruptions of key grid components.

Hitachi Energy looks forward to continuing its collaboration with policymakers across the country to drive development of a domestic manufacturing environment that fuels America's energy future.

Anthony Allard
Chief Global Sales & Marketing Officer
Head of the Americas
Hitachi Energy

Brad Viator, President
Power for Tomorrow

April 29, 2026

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bob Latta
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Legislative Hearing – *AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers (April 29, 2026)*

Dear Chairmen Guthrie and Latta:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in connection with the Subcommittee on Energy's hearing on "AI and the Grid: Meeting Growing Power Demand While Protecting Ratepayers." I write to you on behalf of Power for Tomorrow (PFT), the nation's leading resource for practical research, commentary, and information on the consumer benefits of the regulated electric utility model. We were founded precisely to engage on the kinds of questions this Committee is examining, and we welcome this opportunity to share our perspective.

We appreciate the Committee's concern about the challenges posed by rapid growth in electricity demand, and we recognize the seriousness with which the majority is approaching the need to protect ratepayers. At the same time, we would encourage the Committee to consider important context: in many parts of the country, the existing state regulatory framework — between a utility and its overseeing regulator — is working well, and working well precisely because it is flexible enough to allow state commissions and utilities to develop solutions tailored to local conditions. In the Southeast in particular, we have seen strong examples of proactive, balanced approaches to managing large load growth while protecting customers.

Georgia Power recently secured a three-year rate freeze while also committing to lower rates in future rate proceedings due to charging data centers more so that families and small businesses pay less. Dominion Energy in Virginia has effectively managed data center customers for decades but is also evolving to meet the moment by developing proactive, durable solutions, including a new rate class designed to ensure that large load data center customers pay their fair share and that smaller customers are protected. Meanwhile, Entergy has pursued a "Fair Share Plus" approach, in line with the Ratepayer Protection Pledge, across the states in which it operates, ensuring that the largest customers pay their fair share of incremental costs to the generation, transmission, and distribution system and deliver benefits –

currently estimated at more than $7 billion – that extend to all customers, including households, small businesses, and manufacturers.

These are not isolated examples; they reflect a regulatory model in which engaged commissions and responsive utilities are able to adapt creatively and effectively to changing circumstances. The message is clear: we can have growth and protect customers. These outcomes aren't mutually exclusive — rather, they're mutually beneficial, when done correctly.

Underpinning these outcomes is a structural advantage unique to vertically integrated utilities: because they own generation, transmission, and distribution, they have both the expertise and the tools to conduct high-quality load forecasting and integrated resource planning. Their long track records of accurate near- and long-term forecasting demonstrate a proven ability to anticipate demand growth and invest accordingly. This is precisely the kind of disciplined and accurate forward-looking planning that the current moment demands.

With respect to the focus of today's hearing, our central concern with the legislation before the Subcommittee is the risk that well-intentioned federal efforts could impose a one-size-fits-all framework on a sector where diversity of approach is a strength, not a weakness. Regulatory structures that may be necessary to address challenges in some regions could disrupt arrangements that are working effectively in others. The lowest common denominator is rarely the right standard for electricity, especially given that some states are already demonstrating that higher-performing alternatives are achievable.

We would respectfully urge the Committee to consider carefully whether each of the bills before you preserves sufficient flexibility for states and commissions to continue building on their successes, and to avoid inadvertently exporting the problems of some regions to regions that have found effective solutions.

We commend the Committee for its focus on the intersection of grid reliability, affordability, and the demands of a rapidly evolving technological landscape. PFT shares the goal of ensuring that customers are protected as the grid adapts to new challenges, and we believe that the best outcomes will be achieved through a regulatory framework that preserves state primacy, encourages regional partnership, and builds on the approaches that are already demonstrating success. PFT would welcome the opportunity to work directly with the bill authors and Committee staff as this legislation is refined, and we stand ready to assist in any way that would be helpful.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Viator
President, Power for Tomorrow
bviator@powerfortomorrow.org

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BOMA 2026

BOMA International Conference & Expo
June 27-30, 2026
Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center
Long Beach, CA

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Bob Latta
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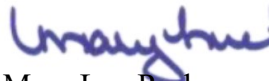

Mary Lue Peck
President & COO