

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3514

October 20, 2017

Chairman Neil Chatterjee
Commissioner Cheryl A. LaFleur
Commissioner Robert F. Powelson
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Chairman Chatterjee, Commissioner LaFleur, and Commissioner Powelson,

We write to thank the Department of Energy and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for initiating a rulemaking to help ensure a secure, resilient, and reliable U.S. electrical system. This will be accomplished by preserving the baseload power plants that form the backbone of our electric grid.


Our nation depends on an affordable, reliable, and secure supply of electricity produced by diverse energy resources. Baseload power plants are the only resources that can operate around the clock to support the energy demands of customers, businesses, and industries. These plants operate in all types of weather, and because they maintain large reserves of on-site fuel, they are not sensitive to fuel supply disruptions.


Preserving baseload plants also promotes a strong American economy. These facilities are economic engines that provide thousands of jobs not only at generating facilities and throughout the supply chain, but also in the small businesses, restaurants, entertainment venues, and other industries that comprise the communities around these plants. Local schools, police and fire departments, and other vital community services rely heavily on tax revenues paid by these facilities.

The current market structure, which undervalues baseload generation, has led to these plants closing prematurely at an alarming rate. These closures have resulted in an electrical grid with weakened resiliency and a diminished ability to respond to crisis.

A logical way to address this issue is to develop and implement market rules that appropriately compensate fuel-secure baseload generating plants. America's energy future depends on preserving a diverse, resilient, dependable, and secure energy supply. We appreciate your commitment on this matter and respectfully urge your swift action to develop and implement market rules that will prevent premature baseload plant closures, consistent with the rules and regulations of the Commission.

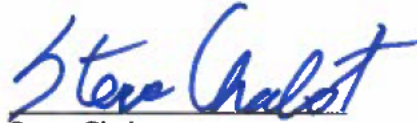
Respectfully,


David P. Joyce
Member of Congress


Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



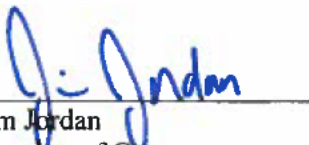
Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



Patrick Tiberi
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Bill Johnson
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