



KYLE PITSOR

Vice President, Government Relations

September 9, 2011

Mr. David H. Meyer
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington DC 20585

Dear Mr. Meyer:

I am writing in response to the Department of Energy's (DOE) proposed delegation to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) of its authorities pertaining to electric transmission congestion and National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETC) under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAc 05).

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) is the association of electrical equipment manufacturers, founded in 1926 and headquartered in Arlington, Virginia. Our member companies manufacture a diverse set of products including power transmission and distribution equipment, lighting systems, factory automation and control systems, and medical diagnostic imaging systems. Worldwide annual sales of NEMA-scope products exceed \$120 billion.

NEMA is committed to improving the regulatory environment for the planning, development, siting, and construction of transmission infrastructure. We believe that EPAc 05 took significant initial steps to decrease the obstacles to transmission development in at least some of the more congested areas of the country. Setbacks during implementation of the law, however, have in many ways returned us to the starting line.

We believe that transferring from DOE to FERC the authorities under EPAc 05 regarding congestion studies and designation of NIETC would bolster FERC's permitting and backstop siting authority in NIETC. Consolidation of authorities in a single agency will streamline the administration of these numerous, and related, provisions of EPAc 05. Furthermore, the proposal to allow FERC to consider applications for project-specific NIETC is worthy of further discussion.

It is NEMA's view that this administrative action, along with FERC's careful application of any new authorities provided to it in accordance with EPAc 05 and the provisions contained in FERC's Order No. 1000, would reduce congestion on our nation's electric grid, facilitate siting of new transmission infrastructure, and improve the delivery of power from where it is produced to where it is consumed by residential, commercial, and institutional end-users.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Pitsor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kyle Pitsor

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Manufacturers Association**

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