



Energy
Storage
Association



May 22, 2019

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chair
Committee on Energy & Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chair
Committee on Science, Space, & Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space, & Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Pallone, Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Walden, and Ranking Member Lucas,

Our organizations endorse the bipartisan Promoting Grid Storage Act, which was introduced today by Representatives Sean Casten and Don Bacon. Energy storage is a powerful tool for grid operators to enhance electric system resilience, lower energy costs, manage load and adapt to a changing power supply mix. Nonetheless, the unique attributes of energy storage technologies present a learning curve for grid operators, with technical and financial hurdles that can serve as a barrier to their optimal use.

The Promoting Grid Storage Act would address these challenges by authorizing the Department of Energy to support states, investor-owned electric utilities, public power utilities, and electric cooperatives to incorporate storage into long-term planning and grid operations. By prioritizing assistance to electric utilities who have yet to deploy energy storage technologies, this bill will target particularly smaller utilities that need the most assistance. Moreover, greater collaboration between federal, state, and local energy officials will help ensure we have flexible and resilient grid operations suited to meeting 21st century demands.

As your committees consider legislation to enhance U.S. energy infrastructure, we respectfully request that you include the Promoting Grid Storage Act in your discussions and support its passage into law.

Sincerely,

American Public Power Association (APPA)
Energy Storage Association (ESA)
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)