



Energy  
Storage  
Association



**NRECA**  
America's Electric Cooperatives

May 22, 2019

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
Chair  
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Manchin,

Our organizations endorse the bipartisan Promoting Grid Storage Act, which was introduced today by Senators Tina Smith and Susan Collins and is co-sponsored by a bipartisan group of senators. 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)