



Secretary Rick Perry  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

May 16, 2017

Dear Secretary Perry,

We write today to follow up on our letter of April 28 requesting that the Department of Energy conduct an open and transparent process for the review of reliability and electricity markets ordered by your memo of April 14.

The four undersigned organizations represent generators and installers of renewable energy, large electricity purchasers, and companies providing other technologies and services in a broad clean energy industry that supports over 3 million homegrown American jobs located in every state. We share with you a belief that the reliability of the grid is paramount and that maintaining it is a fundamental obligation of those responsible for it. We also appreciate the experience you bring to the position of Secretary of Energy from your time as Governor of Texas, overseeing an electric grid that achieved higher penetrations of renewable energy than any other state in the country and doing so in the context of an open and competitive electricity market.

It is in the spirit of common purpose that we express our disappointment that the Department has apparently chosen not to make this review – which as outlined in your memo has the potential to upend energy markets around the country – public and open to input from industry, grid operators, state regulators, and other key stakeholders. In addition, we are concerned that the scope of the report appears to be based on a faulty premise – a premise contrary to the experience in your home state of Texas – that renewable generation is responsible for the retirement of coal and nuclear generation resources, and that the loss of those resources will lead to declining reliability of the grid.

Though the Department of Energy has not to date solicited public comment, we believe this topic is too important for DOE to be deprived of the expertise and insights of those in the industries we represent. To that end, we are submitting for your consideration information and analyses produced by each of our organizations that we feel should inform the report you have ordered from DOE and its findings related to policy.

We believe that, taken together, these reports demonstrate that the U.S. electric power system is more diverse in its energy sources than ever before, and due to the flexible way these resources are now managed, becoming more reliable and resilient as a result.

We remain willing and eager to discuss these matters with you and members of your Department, in the interest of developing an accurate assessment of the U.S. electric power system today, and pointing toward policy actions that will continue the development of the secure, clean, and affordable energy system the U.S. economy and citizenry can rely on.

Sincerely,

Advanced Energy Economy  
American Council on Renewable Energy  
American Wind Energy Association  
Solar Energy Industries Association