



National Association of State Energy Officials
Board of Directors Resolution on Electric Grid Modernization and Comprehensive Electricity Planning

WHEREAS, the 56 State, Territory, and District of Columbia Energy Offices and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) are dedicated to supporting a secure, affordable, sustainable, and reliable electric grid;

WHEREAS, innovation in energy generation, transmission, storage, distribution, grid management, and wholesale and retail services are transforming the nation’s electric grid and the broader national energy system;

WHEREAS, State Energy Offices help to advance American job growth and innovation, increased economic productivity, strengthened infrastructure, and greater resilience by improving existing and building new electricity system infrastructure;

WHEREAS, technology innovation for existing transmission lines can increase their efficiency and capacity, allow additional clean energy generation to be added to the grid, increase resilience, and reduce costs to consumers;

WHEREAS, the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* was passed on a bipartisan basis by Congress in 2021 and provides for formula grants and other electric grid-related funding to States, Territories, Indian Tribes, and energy providers to prevent outages and enhance the resilience of the electric grid, including the relocation of power lines or the reconducting of power lines with low-sag, efficient, cost-effective, advanced conductors;

WHEREAS, the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, through the U.S. State Energy Program, provides support for electric transmission and distribution planning, including support for local governments and Indian Tribes, as well as feasibility studies for transmission line routes and alternatives, and preparation of necessary project design and permits;

WHEREAS, the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* also encourages State Energy Offices in their State Energy Security Plans to include a risk mitigation approach to enhance reliability and end-use resilience, which can include electric transmission upgrades and needs;

WHEREAS, Congress’ bipartisan reauthorization of the U.S. State Energy Program makes clear the State Energy Offices’ leadership role in State Energy Security Planning and engagement with the U.S. Department of Energy, as well as their in-state engagement with regulatory utility commissions, electric grid operators, fuel providers, and other critical infrastructure stakeholders, as well as neighboring states;

WHEREAS, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in its Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NOPR) *Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection* (Docket Number RM21-17-000) calls for grid operators to evaluate alternative transmission solutions;

WHEREAS, the State Energy Offices approach these electricity issues in a comprehensive manner and urge all stakeholders to address the transmission of electricity in conjunction with (and in consideration of) expansion of distributed generation, energy storage, renewable generation, coordination with Independent System Operators and Regional Transmission Organizations, strengthening of wholesale and retail markets, reliability, resiliency,



microgrids, electric vehicles, grid-interactive efficient buildings, energy security, cybersecurity, local distribution and sub-transmission enhancements, streamlining of interconnections, and adaptability to new technologies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NASEO Board of Directors encourages the deployment of grid modernization technologies that enable demand flexibility and system resilience that benefits consumers and positively impacts transmission and distribution planning;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NASEO Board of Directors encourages the State Energy Offices to support and engage in transmission and distribution planning within each of their regions, including coordinated transmission and distribution planning to assess transmission needs;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NASEO Board of Directors encourages the U.S. Department of Energy to deliver neutral, expert data on the economic, environmental, equity, climate, and energy benefits to each state within the identified Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act -supported transmission opportunity areas;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NASEO Board of Directors encourages State Energy Officials to collaborate with other state and local agencies, and energy providers to consider and utilize to the maximum extent practical strategies that can augment system resilience and leverage U.S. Department of Energy identified strategies, which includes measures such as reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, low-resistance, high-performance, efficient, cost-effective, advanced conductors;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NASEO Board of Directors encourages State Energy Officials to collaborate with and provide guidance to other State, Tribal governments, local and federal agencies, and energy and transmission providers to maximize comprehensive approaches to electricity transmission and distribution system planning, electricity services and markets evolution, and the assurance of resiliency, reliability, efficiency and penetration of new technologies.

Recommended by NASEO's Electricity Committee and adopted by the NASEO Board of Directors on August 16, 2022.