

GUARANTEEING RELIABILITY THROUGH THE
INTERCONNECTION OF DISPATCHABLE POWER ACT

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GUTHRIE, from the Committee on Energy and Commerce,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 1047]

The Committee on Energy and Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1047) to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reform the interconnection queue process for the prioritization and approval of certain projects, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

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PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

H.R. 1047 the “Guaranteeing Reliable Interconnection of Dispatchable (GRID) Power Act” was introduced by Representative Troy Balderson (R-OH) on February 6, 2025. This legislation would direct FERC to issue a rulemaking authorizing transmission providers to prioritize and expedite interconnection queue requests for dispatchable generation projects and projects that enhance grid resilience and reliability. The legislation would require FERC to conduct periodic review and updates of regulations promulgated under this rulemaking to ensure interconnection regulations remain effective and relevant to grid reliability and resilience challenges.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Generator interconnection agreements are the formal process for generating units to connect to high voltage transmission lines of the bulk power system. Interconnection agreements require studies and analyses to assess the impact that new generation units may have on the bulk-power system. In 2003, FERC finalized Order 2003, its first formal standardization of interconnection agreements and procedures for all public utilities that operate facilities that transmit electricity in interstate commerce.¹ The commission stated in Order 2003 that the intent of standardizing the interconnection process was to prevent undue discrimination, increase energy supply, and lower wholesale prices for customers by increasing the variety of generating resources.²

Since Order 2003, the electricity sector has changed dramatically, presenting new challenges to the existing and a growing prevalence of interconnection backlogs and approval delays. Further complicating these challenges is the historic increases of projected electricity demands, largely driven by new data centers, domestic manufacturing, and general economy-wide electrification that is occurring while record levels of baseload power are seeking to retire. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) projects peak demand to grow by 151 GW by 2034.³ At the same time, NERC reports that as much as 115 GW of thermal generation has announced to retire within the same time period.⁴

It is estimated that 95 percent of current interconnection requests come from wind, solar, or battery storage resources.⁵ This is driven by a confluence of factors, including federal and state subsidies for intermittent energy resources, state policies that require utilities to deploy intermittent energy resources, and state and federal regulations that discourage the continued operation of, or new investments into, baseload generating resources, such as natural gas, oil, and coal. The growing presence of variable energy resources on the bulk power system creates significant challenges for

¹U.S. Fed. Energy Regul. Comm’n (FERC), *Standardization of Generator Interconnection Agreements and Procedures*, Docket No. RM02-1-001; Order No. 2003-A, (Issued Mar. 5, 2004), <https://www.ferc.gov/sites/default/files/2020-06/order-2003.pdf>.

²*Id.*

³North American Reliability Corporation (NERC), *2024 Long-Term Reliability Assessment* (December 2024), https://www.nerc.com/pa/RAPA/ra/Reliability%20Assessments%20DL/NERC_Long%20Term%20Reliability%20Assessment_2024.pdf.

⁴*Id.*

⁵Joseph Rand et al., *Queued Up: 2024 Edition, Characteristics of Power Plants Seeking Transmission Interconnection as of the End of 2023*, Lawrence Berkely National Laboratory, funded by the U.S. Dep’t. of Energy under Contract No. DE-AC02-05CH11231 (April 2024), https://emp.lbl.gov/sites/default/files/2024-04/Queued%20Up%202024%20Edition_R2.pdf.

grid operators to properly plan and protect reliability and stability of the grid while also creating approval backlogs for new resources seeking interconnection. Much of these resources remain speculative and are not considered shovel ready. As an example, PJM finds that the historical completion rate for renewable energy projects is 5 percent.⁶

In 2023, FERC finalized Order 2023, its next most comprehensive alterations to the interconnection process.⁷ Among other things, Order 2023 changed the interconnection queue from a “first come first serve” model to a “first ready first serve” model, required the use of cluster studies to study multiple projects simultaneously, and required generating customers to provide readiness deposits to secure a spot in the interconnection queue. These reforms are seeking to ensure project viability and remove speculators from taking up valuable space on the interconnection queue. At the time of this report, FERC continues evaluating grid operator filings to comply with requirements from Order 2023, which has not been fully implemented.

During the Energy Subcommittee’s hearing on March 25th, 2025, with regional grid operators, witness testimony identified the challenges of maintaining reliability amidst growing reliance on variable energy resources and the need for baseload, dispatchable, and on-demand generating units to maintain sufficient frequency and voltage support.⁸ In recognition of the growing imbalance of generating resources on the bulk power system, growing backlog of interconnection queue requests, rapid pace of baseload retirements, and historic increases in projected demand, PJM, MISO, CAISO, and SPP have implemented, or put forward proposals, to expedite the approval of generation projects that can meaningfully contribute to resource adequacy.

To ensure the reliability and stability of the bulk power system, the Committee finds there is a need to bring dispatchable and on-demand generating resources onto the system that can balance the growing presence of variable resources, such as wind and solar. During our Energy Subcommittee’s hearing on March 25th, 2025, with regional grid operators, Southwest Power Pool (SPP) noted a recent weather event where the region lost 12,000 MW of available wind resources in a 2-hour timeframe and replaced the lost power supplies with readily available natural gas generating units.⁹

To that end, the GRID Power Act would provide grid operators additional tools to methodically advance resources through the interconnection queue to protect the reliability and stability of the electric grid.

⁶PJM, *Energy Transitions in PJM: Resource Retirements, Replacements & Risks* (Feb. 24, 2023), <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/DotCom/library/reports-notice/special-reports/2023/energy-transition-in-pjm-resource-retirements-replacements-and-risks.ashx>.

⁷FERC, *Improvements to Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreements*, Docket No. RM22-14-000; Order No. 2023 (Issued Jul. 28, 2023), <https://www.ferc.gov/media/order-no-2023>.

⁸*Keeping the Lights On: Examining the State of Regional Grid Reliability: Hearing before the H. Comm. on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy*, 119th Cong. (Mar. 25, 2025), <https://energycommerce.house.gov/events/energy-subcommittee-keeping-the-lights-on-examining-the-state-of-regional-grid-reliability>.

⁹*Id.*

COMMITTEE ACTION

On April 30, 2025, the Subcommittee on Energy held a legislative hearing on 14 bills, including H.R. 1047. The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Mike Goff, Acting Undersecretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy;
- David L. Morenoff, Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
- Terry Turpin, Director, Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
- Jim Matheson, Chief Executive Officer, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association;
- Amy Andryszak, President and Chief Executive Officer, Interstate Natural Gas Association of America;
- Todd A. Snitchler, President and Chief Executive Officer, Electric Power Supply Association and;
- Kim Smaczniak, Partner, Roselle LLP.

On June 5, 2025, the Subcommittee on Energy met in open markup session and forwarded H.R. 1047, without amendment, to the full Committee by a record vote of 16 yeas and 14 nays. On June 25, 2025, the full Committee on Energy and Commerce met in open markup session and ordered H.R. 1047, without amendment, favorably reported to the House by a record vote of 28 yeas and 23 nays.

COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII requires the Committee to list the record votes on the motion to report legislation and amendments thereto. The following reflects the record votes taken during the Committee consideration:

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
119TH CONGRESS
ROLL CALL VOTE # 4**

BILL: H.R. 1047, Guaranteeing Reliability through the Interconnection of Dispatchable Power (GRID Power) Act

AMENDMENT: Approved favorably to the Full Committee (Final Passage)

DISPOSITION: Agreed to, by a roll call vote of 16 yeas to 14 nays.

REPRESENTATIVE	YEAS	NAYS	PRESENT	REPRESENTATIVE	YEAS	NAYS	PRESENT
Mr. Latta	X			Ms. Castor		X	
Mr. Weber	X			Mr. Peters		X	
Mr. Palmer	X			Mr. Menendez		X	
Mr. Allen	X			Mr. Mullin		X	
Mr. Balderson	X			Ms. McClellan		X	
Mr. Pfluger	X			Ms. DeGette		X	
Mrs. Harshbarger	X			Ms. Matsui		X	
Mrs. Miller-Meeks				Mr. Tonko		X	
Mr. James	X			Mr. Veasey		X	
Mr. Bentz	X			Ms. Schrier		X	
Mr. Fry	X			Ms. Fletcher		X	
Ms. Lee				Ms. Ocasio-Cortez		X	
Mr. Langworthy	X			Mr. Auchincloss		X	
Mr. Rulli	X			Mr. Pallone		X	
Mr. Evans	X						
Mr. Goldman	X						
Mrs. Fedorchak	X						
Mr. Guthrie	X						

06/05/2025

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
119TH CONGRESS
ROLL CALL VOTE # 4**

BILL: H.R. 1047. Guaranteeing Reliability through the Interconnection of Dispatchable Power (GRID Power) Act

AMENDMENT: Final Passage

DISPOSITION: Agreed to, by a roll call vote of 28 yeas and 23 nays.

REPRESENTATIVE	YEAS	NAYS	PRESENT	REPRESENTATIVE	YEAS	NAYS	PRESENT
Mr. Guthrie	X			Mr. Pallone		X	
Mr. Latta	X			Ms. DeGette		X	
Mr. Griffith	X			Ms. Schakowsky		X	
Mr. Bilirakis	X			Ms. Matsui		X	
Mr. Hudson	X			Ms. Castor		X	
Mr. Carter (GA)	X			Mr. Tonko		X	
Mr. Palmer	X			Ms. Clarke		X	
Mr. Dunn	X			Mr. Ruiz		X	
Mr. Crenshaw	X			Mr. Peters		X	
Mr. Joyce	X			Mrs. Dingell		X	
Mr. Weber	X			Mr. Veasey		X	
Mr. Allen	X			Ms. Kelly		X	
Mr. Balderson	X			Ms. Barragán		X	
Mr. Fulcher	X			Mr. Soto		X	
Mr. Pfluger	X			Ms. Schrier		X	
Mrs. Harshbarger	X			Ms. Trahan		X	
Mrs. Miller-Meeks	X			Ms. Fletcher		X	
Mrs. Cammack	X			Ms. Ocasio-Cortez			
Mr. Obernolte	X			Mr. Auchincloss		X	
Mr. James	X			Mr. Carter (LA)		X	
Mr. Bentz	X			Mr. Menendez		X	
Mrs. Houchin	X			Mr. Mullin		X	
Mr. Fry	X			Mr. Landsman		X	
Ms. Lee				Ms. McClellan		X	
Mr. Langworthy	X						
Mr. Kean							
Mr. Rulli	X						
Mr. Evans	X						
Mr. Goldman	X						
Mrs. Fedorchak	X						

06/25/2025

OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursuant to clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII, the Committee held hearings and made findings that are reflected in this report.

NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII, the Committee finds that H.R. 1047 would result in no new or increased budget authority, entitlement authority, or tax expenditures or revenues.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII, at the time this report was filed, the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was not available.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this legislation is to direct FERC to initiate a rulemaking to authorize transmission providers to adjust interconnection queue schedules for resources that meaningfully contribute to the stability and resource adequacy of the bulk power system.

DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII, no provision of H.R. 1047 is known to be duplicative of another Federal program, including any program that was included in a report to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

RELATED COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(6) of rule XIII, the following related hearings were used to develop or consider H.R. 1047:

On February 5, 2025, the Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on H.R. 1047, titled “Powering America’s Future: Unleashing American Energy.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Amanda Eversole, Executive Vice President and Chief Advocacy Officer, American Petroleum Institute;
- Brigham McCown, Senior Fellow and Director, Initiative on American Energy Security, The Hudson Institute;
- Gary Arnold, Business Manager, Denver Pipefitters Local 208 and;
- Tyler O’Connor, Partner, Crowell & Moring LLP.

On March 5, 2025, the Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on H.R. 1047, titled “Scaling for Growth: Meeting the Demand for

Reliable, Affordable Electricity.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Todd Brickhouse, CEO and General Manager, Basin Electric Power Cooperative;
- Asim Haque, Senior Vice President for Governmental and Member Services, PJM;
- Noel W. Black, Senior VP of Regulatory Affairs, Southern Company and;
- Tyler H. Norris, James B. Duke Fellow, Duke University.

On March 25, 2025, the Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on H.R. 1047, titled “Keeping the Lights On: Examining the State of Regional Grid Reliability.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Gordon van Welie, President and Chief Executive Officer, ISO New England;
- Richard J. Dewey, President and Chief Executive Officer, New York Independent System Operator;
- Manu Asthana, President and Chief Executive Officer, PJM Interconnection LLC;
- Jennifer Curran, Senior Vice President for Planning and Operations, Midcontinent ISO;
- Lanny Nickell, Chief Operating Officer, Southwest Power Pool;
- Elliot Mainzer, President and Chief Executive Officer, California Independent System Operator and;
- Pablo Vegas President and Chief Executive Officer, Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc.

On April 9, 2025, the Committee on Energy and Commerce held a hearing on H.R. 1047, titled “Converting Energy into Intelligence: The Future of AI Technology, Human Discovery, and American Global Competitiveness.” The Committee received testimony from:

- Eric Schmidt, Chair, Special Competitive Studies Project;
- Manish Bhatia, Executive Vice President of Global Operations, Micron Technology;
- Alexander Wang, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Scale AI, and;
- David Turk, Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University.

On April 30, 2025, the Subcommittee on Energy held a legislative hearing on H.R. 1047, titled “Assuring Abundant, Reliable American Energy to Power Innovation”. The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Mike Goff, Acting Undersecretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy;
- David L. Morenoff, Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
- Terry Turpin, Director, Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
- Jim Matheson, Chief Executive Officer, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association;
- Amy Andryszak, President and Chief Executive Officer, Interstate Natural Gas Association of America;
- Todd A. Snitchler, President and Chief Executive Officer, Electric Power Supply Association and;
- Kim Smaczniak, Partner, Roselle LLP.

COMMITTEE COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII, the Committee adopts as its own the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. At the time this report was filed, the estimate was not available.

EARMARK, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Pursuant to clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI, the Committee finds that H.R. 1047 contains no earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act were created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Short title

Section 1 provides that the Act may be cited as the “Guaranteeing Reliability through the Interconnection of Dispatchable Power Act” or the “GRID Power Act.”

Section 2. Definitions

Section 2 defines terms included in the Act.

Section 3. Rulemaking to improve interconnection queue flexibility

Section 3 directs FERC to initiate a rulemaking to address the inefficiencies and ineffectiveness of existing procedures for generation interconnection requests by authorizing transmission providers to submit proposals that adjust interconnection queue schedules that prioritize projects which improve grid reliability and resource adequacy. Proposals submitted pursuant to this rulemaking must demonstrate a need for prioritization, reporting requirements, and opportunity for public comment before being submitted to the commission.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

This legislation does not amend any existing Federal statute.

MINORITY VIEWS

H.R. 1047, the GRID Power Act H.R. 1047, the GRID Power Act, would require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to initiate a rulemaking allowing grid operators to submit filings to FERC to prioritize certain types of electricity generation resources, namely, fossil fuels. This legislation is another component of Republicans’ plan to wage all-out war on zero-carbon sources of electricity. Instead of focusing on technology-neutral improvements to the generation interconnection process, the bill arbitrarily picks winners and losers.

The main ostensible concept of the legislation—allowing grid operators to prioritize certain resources—is duplicative because it is *already allowed under section 205 of the Federal Power Act*. Remarkably, the majority’s report fails to mention three major initiatives from grid operators that have successfully sought permission from FERC for a one-time intervention in their generation interconnection queues to prioritize dispatchable resources in the last year.¹ If the bill was only aimed at allowing technology-agnostic interventions into the generation interconnection queue to stave off reliability concerns, it would merely be duplicative of existing authorities.

However, there are significant differences between the process imagined by the legislation and FERC’s existing process—all of which mean that the bill would make the status quo significantly worse. The Committee received testimony earlier this year that FERC’s current approvals of interconnection queue interventions, such as those proposed by PJM, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), and the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), must satisfy just and reasonable criteria under the Federal Power Act, and must not be unduly discriminatory or preferential.² H.R. 1047, however, includes no such requirement of grid operator filings, meaning the bill could open up power markets to blatant resource discrimination. This is evident in the initial results from MISO’s Expedited Resource Addition Study process, which included one battery storage project, one wind project, and three solar projects out of ten total projects.³ Grid operators would likely be barred from considering these types of projects under the bill’s flawed definition of “dispatchable power,” meaning the bill would restrict grid

¹*PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*, 190 FERC ¶ 61,084 (Feb. 11, 2025); *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*, 192 FERC ¶ 61,062 (July 21, 2025); *Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.*, 192 FERC ¶ 61,064 (July 21, 2025).

²House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Testimony of Kim Smaczniak, Partner, Roselle LLP, *Hearing on Assuring Abundant, Reliable American Energy to Power Innovation*, 119th Cong. (Apr. 30, 2024).

³Midcontinent Independent System Operator, *MISO Announces First 10 ERAS Projects* (Sep. 4, 2025) (<https://www.misoenergy.org/meet-miso/media-center/2025--news-releases/miso-announces-first-10-eras-project/>) (press release).

operators' ability to accelerate the resources their grids most acutely need.

The importance of guardrails to ensure that proposed queue interventions are just and reasonable and not unduly discriminatory or preferential is not merely hypothetical. Earlier this year, FERC rejected MISO's initial attempt to intervene in its interconnection queue because it lacked limits on the number of projects that could be considered.⁴ Had MISO instead made its proposal under the regime envisioned by this bill, it likely would have been approved, transforming a one-time, emergency queue intervention into an open-ended preference for particular resources. When Energy Subcommittee Ranking Member Kathy Castor (D-FL) proposed an amendment that would have required FERC to deny any grid operator queue proposal under the bill that was not just or reasonable or was unduly discriminatory or preferential, Republicans rejected the amendment.⁵

The bill also lacks basic, commonsense protections to ensure it can be used to target the lack of generation projects the majority's report is concerned about. The bill contains no requirements that projects accelerated by a grid operator's intervention come online in a specific timeframe, nor does it do anything to help alleviate severe supply chain constraints that seem to be limiting how quickly natural gas-fired power plants can come online.⁶ As Kim Smaczniak, Partner at Roselle, LLP, noted in her testimony to the Committee earlier this year, these inadequacies in the bill could mean that it might harm electric reliability and would put affordability at risk.⁷

The Committee received testimony that "it would be a terrible mistake to only fix the interconnection process for certain types of generators, rather than advance broad-based solutions that benefit all commercially viable projects seeking to interconnect."⁸ If the majority was truly interested in hastening the process of getting power generation online they should have advanced H.R. 2986, the *Expediting Generator Interconnection Procedures Act of 2025*, introduced by Ranking Member Castor. That bill would have built on the progress made by FERC's Order 2023, speeding up generation interconnection for *all* types of projects.

For the reasons stated above, I oppose this legislation.

FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,
Ranking Member.



⁴FERC Rejects MISO Plan to Speed Generation Interconnection, Utility Dive (May 20, 2025).

⁵House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, *Markup of 13 Bills*, 119th Cong. (June 5, 2025).

⁶US Gas-Fired Turbine Wait Times as Much as Seven Years; Costs Up Sharply, S&P Global (May 20, 2025).

⁷See note 2.

⁸*Id.*