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April 24, 2024

The Honorable Peter Welch  
U.S. Senate  
124 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr.  
U.S. Senate  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

***Re: Manufacturers Support S. 3918, the “Advancing GETs Act of 2024”***

Dear Senator Welch and Senator King:

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we support S. 3918, the “Advancing GETs Act of 2024,” which requires the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish a shared savings incentive to return a portion of the savings attributable to an investment in grid-enhancing technology to the developer of that grid-enhancing technology (GET). One hundred percent of IECA member companies are from the manufacturing sector.

Electricity price inflation is accelerating. According to U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. residential electricity prices rose 6.2 percent in 2023 versus 2022. While generation costs have been flat, transmission costs have accelerated. For example, in our largest RTO/ISO which is PJM, in the last ten years, transmission costs as a percent of the wholesale price of electricity have increased from 9 to 28 percent.

GETs are a vital tool to increase transmission capacity without rebuilding existing or new transmission lines. Deploying GETs reduces line congestion and saves consumers from higher electricity costs.

According to an April 2024 U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) report, “Pathways to Commercial Liftoff: Innovative Grid Deployment,” grid enhancing technologies, such as dynamic line rating (DLR), can be deployed in three to five years and can increase effective transmission capacity by an average of 10-30 percent at less than five percent of the cost of rebuilding the line to expand capacity.<sup>1</sup> As the report correctly points out, electric utilities would rather rebuild or build new transmission lines which increase their bottom line than install GETs technology.

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<sup>1</sup> The Innovative Grid Deployment Liftoff Report, U.S. Department of Energy, <https://liftoff.energy.gov/innovative-grid-deployment/>

We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio

*Paul N. Cicio*

President & CEO

cc: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
The Honorable Gene Rodrigues, U.S. Department of Energy  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

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*The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.3 trillion in annual sales, over 12,000 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.9 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, consumer goods, building products, automotive, independent oil refining, and cement.*