



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **MANUFACTURING PROPOSES BOLD PLAN AT FERC TECHNICAL CONFERENCE TO INCREASE AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICITY**

WASHINGTON, DC – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) submitted [testimony](#) in regard to the June 4-5 FERC Technical Conference on “Meeting the Challenge of Resource Adequacy in Regional Transmission Organization and Independent System Operator Regions,” Docket No. AD25-7-000.

Paul N. Cicio, President of IECA, made the following statement:

We appreciate the opportunity to represent the manufacturing sector at this critical Technical Conference. Our nation is at a crossroads. Accelerating electricity prices and declining reliability calls for bold action by FERC, regional markets, but also from federal and state policymakers with divergent energy and environment policy that is in conflict with affordability and reliability. Current problems are not market failures – they are policy failures. Our problems are self-inflicted.

The manufacturing sector that uses 25 percent of U.S. electricity is especially in the crosshairs of failed policy. Whenever there is an inadequate energy supply, we are always the first to be curtailed. The price of electricity has a direct impact on competitiveness.

Today’s testimony provides a bold path forward that calls for comprehensive planning based upon an independent entity to exercise engineering judgment to assess resources and to use the competition for capital, innovation, and cost discipline to assure reliability and affordability.

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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. One hundred percent of IECA members are manufacturing companies whose competitiveness is largely determined by the cost and reliability of natural gas and electricity. IECA’s sole mission is to reduce and avoid energy costs and increase energy reliability through advocacy in Congress and regulatory agencies, such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). 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.*