

## PRESS RELEASE

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August 5, 2025

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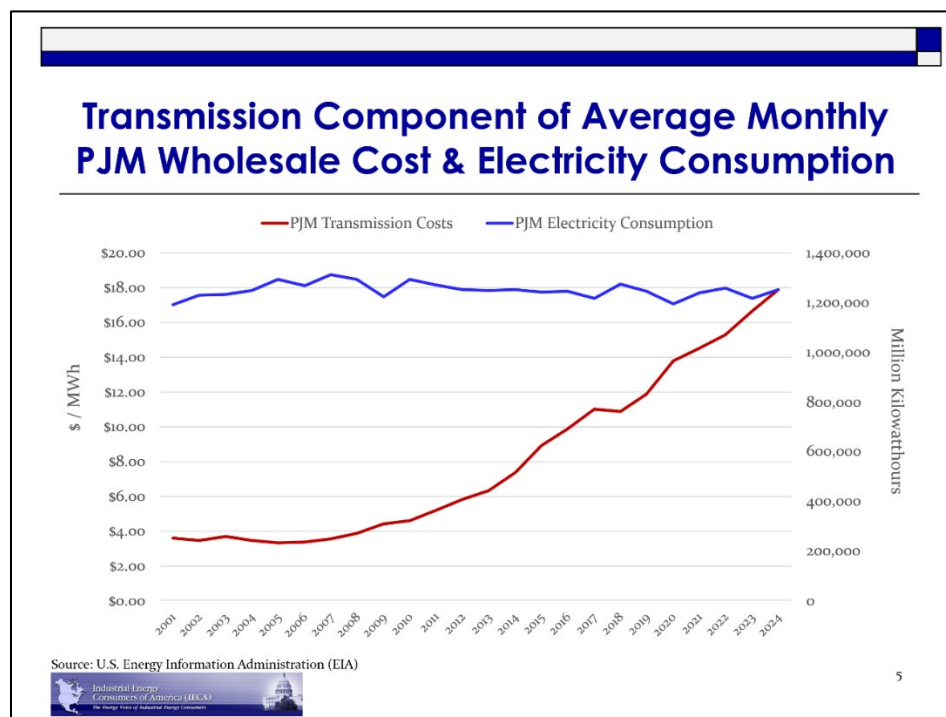
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### TRANSMISSION COSTS ARE THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF ELECTRICITY PRICE INFLATION ACROSS THE COUNTRY

WASHINGTON, DC – As consumers we urge FERC, the Administration, and states to act to ensure that all transmission projects that are 100 kV or larger be competitively bid to reduce consumer costs. Nationwide less than 10 percent of all transmission projects are competitively bid. Where they have, consumers have benefited from cost reductions of up to 40 percent.

Paul N. Cicio, President of IECA, made the following statement: “One only needs to look at PJM to understand why electricity prices are increasing. PJM’s transmission costs have increased from 6.8 percent to 32 percent of the wholesale price of electricity in ten years, while demand was flat. ***President Trump wants to lower energy costs – this is a good place to start.***”

At the July 24 FERC monthly meeting press conference, Chairman Christie stated that transmission costs are what is driving up electricity prices. As manufacturers whose competitiveness is dependent upon the price of energy, we urge Chairman Christie and Commissioners Rosner, See, and Chang to take immediate action in August to reduce transmission costs. Several transmission related issues have not been acted upon.



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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.*