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Consumers Welcome DOJ and FTC Action to Eliminate Anti-Competitive Regulations

Washington, D.C. — The Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition (ETCC) applauds the announcement by the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division and the Federal Trade Commission identifying more than 125 anti-competitive federal regulations for rescission or reform. This announcement follows President Trump's Executive Order on Reducing Anti-Competitive Regulatory Barriers and represents a historic step toward strengthening market competition and lowering costs for American consumers.

The DOJ and FTC's comprehensive, government-wide review recognized that outdated regulations often protect entrenched interests while blocking new entrants and stifling innovation. ETCC has long argued that this is especially true in the electricity transmission sector, where federal and state policies unfairly shield incumbents from transmission competition, driving up costs for ratepayers.

"We are encouraged by DOJ and FTC's announcement and we are hopeful that regulations that prevent competition in building new transmission is included in the list." said Paul Cicio, Chair of the Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition. "Transmission is one of the biggest drivers of electricity prices. By removing anti-competitive barriers, policymakers can open the door to competition, lower rates, and deliver significant savings to American families and businesses."

While the specific list of regulations identified by DOJ and FTC has not been released, ETCC is encouraged by the agencies' clear commitment to addressing the structural barriers that have long disadvantaged consumers.

"Competition works," Paul Cicio added. "FERC's mandate is to provide reliable and affordable power; electricity transmission competition is how they can deliver that for Americans."

Electricity prices are up for all Americans with rate increases double the rate of the Consumer Price Index; transmission is the biggest driver of the cost hikes. In the PJM, the nation's largest RTO network, transmission costs have risen as a percentage of the price of electricity from 7% to 34% in ten years.

Transmission as a percentage of the wholesale electricity price in the PJM RTO

Year	Transmission Cost	Total Wholesale Electricity Price	Transmission as a Percentage of the Price
2014	7.36	108.53	6.78%
2015	8.90	58.27	15.27%
2016	9.86	51.45	19.16%
2017	11.00	54.67	20.12%
2018	10.89	62.61	17.39%
2019	11.90	51.28	23.21%
2020	13.78	45.15	30.52%
2021	14.51	66.07	21.96%
2022	15.28	99.00	15.43%
2023	16.66	53.11	31.37%
2024	17.89	55.14	32.44%

About the Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition

The Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition (ETCC) is a broad-based, nation-wide coalition committed to increasing competition in America's electricity transmission infrastructure. We advocate for common-sense policies and solutions that result in competitively priced transmission projects, which reduce energy costs for all ratepayers – from large manufacturers to residential consumers. The ETCC represents a diverse

group of more than 70 companies and organizations from all 50 states, including manufacturing groups, retail electric consumers, state consumer advocates, public power representatives, think tanks, and non-incumbent transmission developers.

For more information, visit: www.electricitytransmissioncompetitioncoalition.org.

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