



National Association of
State Energy Officials

January 12, 2026

Chairman Latta
Ranking Member Castor
Energy Subcommittee
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: NASEO Letter in Support of SECURE Grid Act/Hearing *Protecting America's Energy Infrastructure in Today's Cyber and Physical Threat Landscape* (January 13, 2026)

Dear Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Castor:

On behalf of the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), I write to express our strong support for the *Securing Community Upgrades for a Resilient Grid Act* (SECURE Grid Act), which the Subcommittee will consider at its January 13, 2026, legislative hearing. NASEO represents the State Energy Offices in all 50 states, the territories, and District of Columbia. We strongly endorse this bipartisan legislation which reflects the very positive work of Chairman Latta and Representative Matsui. NASEO appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments, and we thank the Committee staff for their continued engagement.

One of the key activities of the State Energy Offices is supporting our nation's protection from cyber security and physical security threats. The SECURE Grid Act will help us move forward in this arena, building on the language contained in earlier energy legislation. For example, 2021 legislation built upon language contained in a 1990 statute, which made energy emergency and energy security planning a mandatory feature of the U.S. State Energy Program (SEP) (PL 101-440). The SECURE Grid Act will extend that additional authority, along with authority for electricity transmission and distribution system planning, through 2030. This timeframe provides states with a practical planning horizon to carry out work in support of the Act's goals and regular updating of state energy security plans.

Since the 2021 statute was passed, all State Energy Offices, NASEO, and the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER) worked together—under gubernatorial oversight—to update state energy security plans. When the legislation was developed in 2015, on a bipartisan basis, the Committee recognized the importance of these issues, as well as the determinative role of the governors who lead emergency planning and response efforts in their states. The 2021 statute was a clear advance.

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The SECURE Grid Act furthers these efforts by ensuring that states' electric distribution security planning keeps pace with rapidly evolving cyber and physical threats to our nation's grid. The threat actors have expanded and the need for state energy emergency planning that helps energy providers becomes more critical every day—our adversaries are not resting. The states' grid planning work is especially important as utilities are called upon to integrate unprecedented new loads, in such areas as manufacturing, data centers, and critical defense installations. The protection of our energy infrastructure is a shared responsibility of state, local, and federal governments, as well as the private sector. The governors have been very engaged and supportive of this process.

The legislation also ensures continued leveraging of CESER's highly effective work and partnership with the states and energy providers. Ongoing collaboration among CESER, State Energy Offices, utilities, and fuel providers is essential not only to improving preparedness, but also to restoring grid and fuel operations—utilizing robust state energy security plans—as quickly as possible when disruptions occur.

The strong bipartisan support of this Subcommittee, as well as the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittees in the House and Senate, for SEP is critical to the national interest.

NASEO also endorses the other bills being considered by the Subcommittee at the hearing on January 13, 2026: 1) *Energy Emergency Leadership Act*; 2) *Energy Threat Analysis Center Act of 2026*; 3) *Rural and Municipal Utility Cybersecurity Act*; and 4) *Pipeline and Cybersecurity Preparedness Act*. Each of these bills benefits from, and further reinforces, CESER's valuable partnership with State Energy Offices and the nation's energy providers. We recommend a minor modification to the *Energy Threat Analysis Center Act of 2026* in Section 2(3)(A). You should consider ensuring that the provision of "information" be on a purely discretionary basis, but that "assistance" be on a formula basis to governmental entities to ensure that all states and private entities within the states move forward together in trying to avert energy security threats.

NASEO members from all the states have greatly appreciated the bipartisan support of the SECURE Grid Act, and the truly professional support provided by both the Committee staff on both sides of the aisle and the personal staff regarding this critical legislation. We are prepared to respond to any questions and would be happy to brief the Members and staff on state actions to advance our national security.

We hope this legislation can move forward to enactment very quickly. We request that this statement be placed in the hearing record.

Respectfully Submitted,



David Terry
President, NASEO

cc: The Honorable Brett Guthrie
The Honorable Frank Pallone
State Energy Director