

## FY27 Appropriations: Support Grid Modernization

Investments under the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) program can provide immediate, cost-effective grid capacity gains and represent one of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) most impactful near-term levers to alleviate price pressure, enhance grid reliability, and help meet surging electricity demand.

GRIP supports a suite of commercially available advanced transmission technologies that can quickly boost transmission capacity within existing rights-of-way, help utilities meet near-term load growth, mitigate reliability and resilience challenges, and integrate all generation resources onto the system.

Advanced transmission technologies include high-performance conductors (HPCs) and grid enhancing technologies (GETs), such as dynamic line ratings, topology optimization, advanced power flow controls, advanced distribution management systems, distributed energy resource management systems, and other technologies. These tools can double the capacity of existing transmission infrastructure, while avoiding the need for extensive new permitting and siting approvals.

Congress should ensure the program has sufficient staff support to carry out additional rounds of funding.

1. **Request:** Provide at least \$10 million for robust program direction funding to support grid deployment activities, ensuring the DOE has staff to carry out the program. If the Grid Deployment Office account is closed in FY27, the Office of Electricity program direction funding should increase to \$30 million, from \$20 million in FY26.

The DOE received \$10.5 billion in previously enacted, multiyear appropriations, and over \$7.6 billion in projects have been announced, leaving more than \$2.9 billion in existing authority that can be deployed to strengthen the grid.

Congress should direct the DOE to issue GRIP funds and prioritize HPCs and GETs in future funding opportunities.

2. **Proposed Report Language:** "The Committee supports the continued obligation and disbursement of funds for grid components and directs DOE to prioritize advanced transmission technologies, including grid enhancing technologies and high-performance conductors, and highlights the growing demand for these technologies because of rising energy demand and grid resilience needs."

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