

CEBA Study: The Cost of Constraining New Solar and Wind *Fact Sheet*

The United States' economic future depends on access to reliable, affordable electricity. But decades of underinvestment in the nation's aging electricity system have resulted in an inefficient grid that is ill-equipped to meet projected demand growth from new and expanding economic sectors. Maintaining the nation's global competitiveness, particularly in the AI race, will require the deployment of all energy resources.

A new CEBA study shows that constraining new domestic solar and wind resources increases electricity and natural gas costs compared to scenarios where all resources compete on economics. As a result, American households and businesses could face unnecessary cost increases if new solar and wind deployment are constrained.

Key Report Takeaways:

- Constraining new solar and wind resources could cost the U.S. an additional **\$121.2 billion in electricity and natural gas costs** beginning in 2027 through 2033 compared to scenarios where wind and solar can compete economically.
- The constraints could add **\$81.2 billion, or \$11.6 billion annually**, in electricity and natural gas costs to household energy expenditures over the seven-year period.
- Commercial and industrial customers are projected to pay an **additional \$40 billion, or \$5.7 billion annually**, in electricity costs alone over the modeled period if new solar and wind resources cannot compete in the power market.
- All modeled scenarios added new natural gas generation. However, constraining new solar and wind resources would lead to greater reliance on natural gas, with implications for consumer exposure to fuel price volatility and grid reliability risks during periods of peak energy use.

Solution: Technology-neutral permitting reform is essential to enabling competition among resources, helping ensure lower-cost, reliable electricity for all Americans.

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The Corporate Energy Buyers Association (CEBA) is a business association that activates energy buyers and their partners to drive low-cost, reliable, carbon emissions-free global electricity systems. CEBA represents about 320 members with \$40 trillion in market value, including energy customers of all sizes, suppliers, and service providers. Learn more at ceba.org and follow us on [X](#) and [LinkedIn](#).