

Chairman Kevin McIntyre
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Energy
United States House of Representatives
April 17, 2018

Thank you and good morning Chairman Upton, Ranking Member Rush and distinguished members of this Subcommittee.

My name is Kevin McIntyre and since December I have had the privilege of serving as the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. FERC is an independent federal agency that regulates important aspects of our nation's electric, natural gas, hydropower and oil pipeline industries. As Chairman, I am particularly pleased to be serving alongside my esteemed fellow Commissioners who also are appearing before you today. I could not have hoped for a more engaged, better-informed and more public-spirited group of colleagues than these.

My goals as Chairman include the fostering of continued excellence at FERC, which was recently recognized, as you Chairman Upton mentioned, recognized in a prominent national ranking of the best places to work in the federal government as the number one midsized agency.

My goals also include making FERC's actions as open, transparent, fair and efficient as possible. A top substantive priority of mine is to protect and promote the resilience of our bulk power system as has been mentioned here this morning. On January 8 we initiated a proceeding to evaluate the state of that grid resilience. We are still receiving the incoming public comments in response to our issuance in that proceeding, and as we are informed by those comments and deliberate on them we will make determinations as to whether additional action by FERC is warranted in this critical area.

I also am pleased that FERC is beginning a review of our 1999 policy statement on the certification - our term for the approval process - for interstate natural gas pipeline facilities. As a matter of good government, I believe that it is appropriate for us, as with any other governmental body, to review our policies and processes from time to time to explore whether any improvements can be made. Our review of gas pipeline certification processes is timely in light of the many changes that the natural gas industry has witnessed in the past 20 years.

In addition to these specific goals and priorities as Chairman, FERC is continuing to consider many other important issues. My fellow Commissioners will address some of those in their testimony before you here this morning.

With that, I thank you for this opportunity to appear before you.