

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 603

To direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to improve interregional electricity transfer capability between immediately adjacent transmission planning regions, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 2025

Mr. CASTEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to improve interregional electricity transfer capability between immediately adjacent transmission planning regions, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Reinforcing the Grid  
5       Against Extreme Weather Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING INTERREGIONAL ELECTRICITY TRANS-**  
2 **FER CAPABILITY.**

3 Part II of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824 et  
4 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 224. IMPROVING INTERREGIONAL ELECTRICITY**  
6 **TRANSFER CAPABILITY.**

7 “(a) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 24 months after  
8 the date of enactment of this section, the Commission  
9 shall issue regulations to establish a process for—

10 “(1) calculating existing transfer capability be-  
11 tween each transmission planning region and its im-  
12 mediately adjacent transmission planning region,  
13 such that—

14 “(A) each transmission planning entity for  
15 a given transmission planning region and the  
16 transmission planning entities for any imme-  
17 diately adjacent transmission planning region  
18 shall use the same method to calculate the  
19 transfer capability between them; and

20 “(B) each shared method of calculation  
21 shall comply with requirements established by  
22 the Commission;

23 “(2) determining a minimum transfer capability  
24 between each transmission planning region and its  
25 immediately adjacent transmission planning region  
26 in order to—

1           “(A) ensure that each transmission plan-  
2           ning region has sufficient electric transfer capa-  
3           bility with immediately adjacent transmission  
4           planning regions to ensure reliability during im-  
5           pacts associated with weather events, physical  
6           events, or cyberattacks to the transmission  
7           planning region; and

8           “(B) optimize achievement of the trans-  
9           mission benefits;

10          “(3) identifying, selecting, and allocating costs  
11          for individual interregional transmission projects  
12          needed to achieve each minimum transfer capability  
13          identified pursuant to paragraph (2); and

14          “(4) preventing the disclosure of information  
15          pertaining to cyberattacks that may compromise the  
16          security of the electricity system.

17          “(b) FILING A PLAN.—

18          “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years  
19          after the date of enactment of this section, and at  
20          least every 5 years thereafter, the transmission plan-  
21          ning entities for each pair of immediately adjacent  
22          transmission planning regions shall file with the  
23          Commission, and receive approval for, a plan that,  
24          in accordance with the regulations issued under sub-  
25          section (a)—

1           “(A) evaluates and selects interregional  
2           transmission projects based on consideration of  
3           the transmission benefits; and

4           “(B) achieves minimum interregional  
5           transfer capability.

6           “(2) DUTY OF COMMISSION.—The Commission  
7           shall approve or deny a plan filed pursuant to para-  
8           graph (1) in consideration of the factors described in  
9           subsection (a)(2).

10          “(c) REPORT.—Not later than 48 months after the  
11          date on which the regulations are issued pursuant to sub-  
12          section (a), and annually thereafter, the Commission shall  
13          publish in the Federal Register a report on the results  
14          of implementing this section.

15          “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16                 “(1) GREENHOUSE GAS.—The term ‘greenhouse  
17                 gas’ includes each of the following:

18                         “(A) Carbon dioxide.

19                         “(B) Methane.

20                         “(C) Nitrous oxide.

21                         “(D) Sulfur hexafluoride.

22                         “(E) Any hydrofluorocarbon.

23                         “(F) Any perfluorocarbon.

24                         “(G) Nitrogen trifluoride.

1                   “(H) Any fully fluorinated linear,  
2                   branched, or cyclic—

3                   “(i) alkane;

4                   “(ii) ether;

5                   “(iii) tertiary amine; or

6                   “(iv) amino ether.

7                   “(I) Any perfluoropolyether.

8                   “(J) Any hydrofluoropolyether.

9                   “(K) Any other fluorocarbon, except for a  
10                  fluorocarbon with a vapor pressure of less than  
11                  1 mm of Hg absolute at 25 degrees Celsius.

12                  “(2) TRANSMISSION BENEFIT.—The term  
13                  ‘transmission benefit’ means a broad range of eco-  
14                  nomic, operational, safety, security, resilience, public  
15                  policy, environmental, and other reasonably antici-  
16                  pated benefit of constructing, modifying, or oper-  
17                  ating a transmission facility, including any benefit  
18                  realized when real-time energy prices and oper-  
19                  ational conditions differ from those anticipated in  
20                  the 48-hour ahead or day-ahead time frame. Such  
21                  benefits include—

22                         “(A) improved reliability;

23                         “(B) improved resilience;

24                         “(C) improved safety;

25                         “(D) reduced congestion;

1 “(E) reduced power losses;

2 “(F) greater carrying capacity;

3 “(G) reduced operating reserve require-  
4 ments;

5 “(H) improved access to lower-cost elec-  
6 tricity generation;

7 “(I) improved access to electricity gener-  
8 ating facilities with no direct emissions of  
9 greenhouse gases;

10 “(J) improved public health from the clo-  
11 sure of electricity generation facilities that emit  
12 harmful pollution;

13 “(K) increased competition and market li-  
14 quidity in electricity markets;

15 “(L) improved energy resilience and reli-  
16 ability of Department of Defense installations;

17 “(M) optimizing use of existing trans-  
18 mission assets, including any existing rights of  
19 way;

20 “(N) other transmission costs avoided by  
21 the proposed transmission solution; and

22 “(O) other potential benefits of increasing  
23 the interconnectedness of the electric grid.

24 “(3) TRANSMISSION PLANNING ENTITY.—The  
25 term ‘transmission planning entity’ means an entity

1 responsible for planning for the deployment of elec-  
2 tric transmission for a given transmission planning  
3 region.

4 “(4) TRANSMISSION PLANNING REGION.—The  
5 term ‘transmission planning region’ means a geo-  
6 graphic area that the Commission finds sufficient to  
7 satisfy its requirements for the scope of regional  
8 transmission planning, as established in or in com-  
9 pliance with the following orders issued by the Com-  
10 mission:

11 “(A) ‘Transmission Planning and Cost Al-  
12 location by Transmission Owning and Oper-  
13 ating Public Utilities’ published in the Federal  
14 Register on October 12, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg.  
15 64890); and

16 “(B) ‘Building for the Future Through  
17 Electric Regional Transmission Planning and  
18 Cost Allocation’ published in the Federal Reg-  
19 ister on October 24, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg.  
20 64890).”.

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