

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8248

To amend the Federal Power Act to allow a person to construct or modify an electric transmission facility in a national interest electric transmission corridor if the person self-certifies certain information to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2026

Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. LAWLER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Federal Power Act to allow a person to construct or modify an electric transmission facility in a national interest electric transmission corridor if the person self-certifies certain information to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 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 “Grid Expansion and
5 Reliability Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SITING OF INTERSTATE ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION**
2 **FACILITIES.**

3 Section 216 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C.
4 824p) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “Sec-
7 retary of Energy (referred to in this section as
8 the ‘Secretary’)” and inserting “Federal Energy
9 Regulatory Commission”; and

10 (B) in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), by
11 striking “Secretary” each place it appears and
12 inserting “Federal Energy Regulatory Commis-
13 sion”;

14 (2) by striking subsections (b) and (d) and in-
15 serting the following:

16 “(b) SELF CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION
17 OR MODIFICATION OF ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION FACILI-
18 TIES.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date on
20 which regulations are issued under paragraph (3),
21 any person may construct or modify an electric
22 transmission facility located in a national interest
23 electric transmission corridor designated under sub-
24 section (a) if such person certifies the information
25 described in paragraph (2).

1 “(2) INFORMATION DESCRIBED.—The informa-
2 tion described in this paragraph is the following:

3 “(A) The exact legal name, title, mailing
4 address, and principal place of business of the
5 person who will construct or modify the electric
6 transmission facility.

7 “(B) Whether the person who will con-
8 struct or modify the electric transmission facil-
9 ity is an individual or corporation, and if the
10 person is a corporation, the State under the
11 laws of which such corporation is organized.

12 “(C) A concise description of any existing
13 operations of the person who will construct or
14 modify the electric transmission facility.

15 “(D) A concise description of the electric
16 transmission facility to be constructed or modi-
17 fied, including the dates on which such con-
18 struction or modification is expected to begin
19 and be completed.

20 “(E) A table of contents that lists each
21 document included in the certification.

22 “(3) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 365 days
23 after the date of enactment of the Grid Expansion
24 and Reliability Act, the Federal Energy Regulatory

1 Commission shall issue regulations to carry out this
2 subsection.

3 “(c) ANNUAL AUDITS AND REPORTS.—

4 “(1) AUDITS.—The Federal Energy Regulatory
5 Commission shall annually audit each certification
6 made under subsection (b) to determine whether the
7 certification included the information required by
8 paragraph (2) of such subsection.

9 “(2) REPORTS.—Not later than 365 days after
10 the date of enactment of the Grid Expansion and
11 Reliability Act, and annually thereafter, the Federal
12 Energy Regulatory Commission shall submit to Con-
13 gress a report describing—

14 “(A) the efficacy of the certification proc-
15 ess under subsection (b) for authorizing the
16 construction and modification of electric trans-
17 mission facilities;

18 “(B) any issues that result from such proc-
19 ess; and

20 “(C) recommendations for how to improve
21 such process through additional legislation or
22 regulation, if needed.”;

23 (3) in subsection (e)(1)—

24 (A) by striking “a permit under subsection
25 (b) for electric transmission facilities to be lo-

1 cated” and inserting “a person authorized pur-
2 suant to subsection (b) to construct or modify
3 an electric transmission facility”;

4 (B) by striking “the permit holder” each
5 place it appears and inserting “such person”;
6 and

7 (C) by striking “and, in the determination
8 of the Commission, the permit holder has made
9 good faith efforts to engage with landowners
10 and other stakeholders early in the applicable
11 permitting process” and inserting “permitting
12 process”;

13 (4) in subsection (h)—

14 (A) by striking “Secretary” each place it
15 appears and inserting “Federal Energy Regu-
16 latory Commission”;

17 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “Depart-
18 ment of Energy” and inserting “Federal En-
19 ergy Regulatory Commission”; and

20 (C) in paragraph (9)—

21 (i) by striking subparagraph (A); and

22 (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs

23 (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (A) and

24 (B), respectively; and

25 (5) in subsection (i)—

1 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “Sec-
2 retary” and inserting “Federal Energy Regu-
3 latory Commission”; and

4 (B) in paragraph (4)—

5 (i) by inserting “Federal Energy Reg-
6 ulatory” before “Commission”;

7 (ii) by striking “Secretary” and in-
8 serting “Federal Energy Regulatory Com-
9 mission”; and

10 (iii) by striking “in disagreement”
11 and all that follows through “subsection
12 (a).” and inserting the following: “in dis-
13 agreement about the siting of transmission
14 facilities within any State that is a party
15 to the compact.”.

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