

to help transition our grid to reliable, carbon-free sources.

With well over 2 terawatts of energy—I asked my staff, what is a terawatt? I think a terawatt is a billion. Two terawatts would be 2 billion. So with well over 2 billion watts of energy—most of it clean energy currently on the sidelines—FERC plays a vital role in expanding our Nation's transmission capacity in order to allow new projects to move forward quickly. To put that figure in perspective, that is 2 billion—2 billion—watts of energy. That is double the amount of electricity-generating capacity that we have today. For example, just last month, FERC finalized two rules to tackle pressing challenges in the transmission planning process.

But there is more to do. There is a lot more to do. It is up to us in this body, in this Congress and over in the House of Representatives—but especially in this body—to ensure that the Commission has a full slate of Commissioners in order to continue with their work to modernize our electric grid for the 21st century.

As we know, President Biden has nominated not one, not two, but three well-qualified individuals—two are Democrats, and one is a Republican—to serve terms on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC. One is David Rosner, one is Lindsay See, and the other is Judy Chang.

We are joined here on the Senate floor by the chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. He will have more to say about this in a minute, I know. Last week, his committee that he chairs and leads reported these three nominations out of committee with broad bipartisan support.

Should they all be confirmed this week, Congress will have done its job to ensure that the Commission is fully seated so that FERC can continue to advance these policies that we need to enable us to bring more clean energy off the sidelines and onto the grid.

I am grateful for the bipartisan support shown so far for these nominees in committee. I salute the committee chairman in no small part for that. I hope that in a few minutes here, they are going to receive the same kind of broad bipartisan support today and in the days to come.

With that, as a West Virginia native, I am happy to yield the floor to another West Virginia native—two former Governors who find common ground here on these nominees to FERC.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. MANCHIN. He meant to say two recovering former Governors, right?

Mr. CARPER. Barely recovering.

Mr. MANCHIN. Barely.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, first of all, let me thank my dear friend Senator CARPER, who heads up EPW and does a tremendous job with his staff.

We have had a great working relationship here.

We all know that having a fully staffed FERC is going to make a lot of difference in what we do in this country, so we begin work this evening on the first of three nominations for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. David Rosner is one, Lindsay See, and Judy Chang are the three that Senator CARPER mentioned.

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources reported all three of these nominations with extremely strong bipartisan support.

During their confirmation hearing, each of the nominees demonstrated deep experience on energy and legal matters, a commitment to follow the law and work within the authorities Congress has provided to FERC, and a recognition that all of our Nation's energy sources play an important role, providing affordable, reliable energy to families and businesses across our country.

Like most of our independent regulatory Commissions, by law, FERC must be bipartisan. But in protecting the public interest, Commission members must conduct themselves as non-partisan guardians, no matter what their party affiliation might be, of the public interest. That is exactly what we need from FERC Commissioners as they undertake the critical work of the Commission, and that is what I expect from these three nominees before the Senate as they come up for votes this week.

Simply put, FERC's job is to ensure the "orderly development of plentiful supplies of electricity and natural gas at reasonable prices." It must ensure adequate and reliable service while protecting customers from excessive prices. It enables us to keep the lights on and to heat and cool our homes and power our businesses and industries.

When Congress established FERC, it stipulated that members of the Commission must be able "to assess fairly the needs and concerns of all interests affected by Federal energy policy." As the Supreme Court has said, the Commission serves as the guardian of the public interest in these matters. As David Rosner said during his confirmation hearing, "None of our country's economic or policy priorities can be achieved if energy reliability is not preserved. Consumers demand it, they deserve it, and it is FERC's most sacred duty to ensure it."

I take special pride in speaking on the first of these nominations this evening.

David Rosner has been on my detail—as far as our detail—from FERC to the majority staff of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for the past 2 years, so I know David. I have seen firsthand his expert knowledge on energy issues, his fairness, his non-partisan approach to every concern and every problem we have had, and his ability to work on both sides of the aisle, and he has done that tremendously.

David Rosner has what it takes for this job. He has extensive experience with energy issues. He has been employed by FERC as an energy industry analyst for over 7 years, including his detail to our committee. He previously worked at the Department of Energy as an economist and as a senior policy adviser and at the Bipartisan Policy Center. It doesn't get any better than that.

I can personally attest to his extensive knowledge of FERC matters based on his work for the Energy Committee. I have seen his willingness and ability to work with others across the aisle on behalf of all Americans. Our committee members have come to rely on David's expertise, so we are proud that David has the opportunity to serve his country in an even more important role.

Although he will be missed by many of us here in the Senate, I have every confidence that he will make a great FERC Commissioner, and I urge my colleagues to support his nomination this evening.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask that the next vote, the vote scheduled for this evening, start immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 669, David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027.

Charles E. Schumer, Joe Manchin III, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Jeanne Shaheen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Alex Padilla, Mazie Hirono, Ben Ray Lujan, Maria Cantwell, Peter Welch, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Mark Kelly, John W. Hickenlooper.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SUL-LIVAN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 67, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 191 Ex.]

YEAS—67

Baldwin	Grassley	Ricketts
Barrasso	Hassan	Risch
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeben	Schatz
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Capito	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Lujan	Tester
Cassidy	Lummis	Tillis
Collins	Manchin	Van Hollen
Coons	McConnell	Warner
Cornyn	Merkley	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Mullin	Warren
Crapo	Murkowski	Welch
Daines	Murphy	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murray	Wicker
Durbin	Ossoff	Wyden
Fischer	Padilla	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	
Graham	Reed	

NAYS—24

Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Johnson	Sanders
Braun	Kaine	Schmitt
Britt	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Budd	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Markey	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Vance

NOT VOTING—9

Butler	Hagerty	Rubio
Ernst	Menendez	Sinema
Fetterman	Moran	Sullivan

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). On this vote, the yeas are 67, the nays are 24.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Arizona.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(At the request of Mr. THUNE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as a result of multiple flight delays and cancellations due to the severe storm sweeping across Florida, I will miss today's votes.●

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY
Washington, DC.

Hon. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 24-42, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$220 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-42

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0
Other \$220 million.
Total \$220 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Standard spare and repair parts, components, consumables, and accessories for F-16 aircraft; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (TW-D-KDW).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: TW-D-KDV.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 5, 2024.

*as defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States—F-16 Standard Spare and Repair Parts

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) has requested to buy standard spare and repair parts, components, consumables, and accessories for F-16 aircraft; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$220 million.

This proposed sale is consistent with U.S. law and policy as expressed in Public Law 96-8.

This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

The proposed sale will improve the recipient's ability to meet current and future threats by maintaining the operational readiness of the recipient's fleet of F-16 aircraft. The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

This equipment will be transferred from U.S. Air Force stock. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the recipient.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL
THOMAS J. TICKNER

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the U.S. Army, MG Thomas J. Tickner, who serves as the chief legislative liaison of the U.S. Army, and will retire from Active Duty after more than 33 distinguished years of active Federal service on 1 September 2024. Throughout his career, Major General Tickner has personified the highest standards of Army professionalism and the soldierly virtues of duty, integrity, and selfless service to the Army and our Nation. Many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Major General Tickner, and it is my privilege to recognize his achievements.

Major General Tickner is a distinguished leader whose career in the U.S. Army has been marked by unwavering dedication and exceptional service. Born and raised in Wayne, PA, Major General Tickner embarked on his military journey with a commitment to excellence that would define his decades-long career.

Commissioned as a distinguished military graduate through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, known as the ROTC, in 1989, Major General Tickner began his service as a platoon