

THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

Chairman Richard Glick
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

November 7, 2022

Dear Chairman Glick:

I am writing in response to the request for public comment to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) forum hosted on September 8, 2022, regarding the electricity and natural gas challenges facing the New England Region. We encourage the Commission to consider all possible solutions to avoid interruptions to power service and combat the rising costs of energy this winter.

The New England Council is a non-partisan alliance of businesses, academic and health institutions, and public and private organizations throughout New England. Our mission is to promote economic growth and a high quality of life in the region by identifying and supporting federal public policies and articulating the voice of its membership regionally and nationally on important issues facing New England. Among our more-than-600 members are businesses and organizations of all types and sizes throughout the six New England states, including energy generation, transmission, and distribution companies, as well as a wide array of commercial energy customers such as financial institutions, manufacturers, healthcare institutions, and universities.

It is with that background that we urge you to continue to engage with stakeholders in the region to ensure there are no service interruptions this winter. Without reliable and affordable energy, businesses cannot operate productively, hospitals and schools cannot provide essential services, and residents cannot depend on the necessities of daily life in our modern society.

Additionally, the cost of living and need for reliable infrastructure are both critical to the quality of life in New England, and we are concerned that the rising cost of energy and possible interruptions to service this winter will provide more incentives for workers and employers to relocate, and pose significant issues for our region's economic competitiveness.

The New England Council's ongoing work includes supporting policies and hosting dialogues to help ensure that New England's citizens and businesses continue to have access to affordable and secure energy resources. The New England states are well on their way in their transition to renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions, and indeed, our region leads the nation in the development of offshore wind resources. However, in the meantime we encourage FERC to work

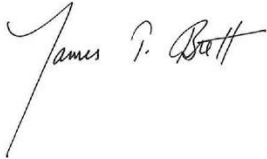
The New England Council

98 North Washington Street, Suite 301 • Boston, Massachusetts 02114 • (617) 723-4009
1411 K Street, NW, Suite 700 • Washington, DC 20005 • (202) 547-0048
www.newenglandcouncil.com

collaboratively with all stakeholders to pursue interim and long-term strategies that will avoid service interruptions to customers and manage rising costs of energy while maintaining investments in renewable sources of energy that will stave off similar crises in the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment, and if you have any questions please feel free to contact Sean Malone on my staff at smalone@newenglandcouncil.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James T. Brett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

James T. Brett
President & CEO
The New England Council

The New England Council

98 North Washington Street, Suite 301 • Boston, Massachusetts 02114 • (617) 723-4009
1411 K Street, NW, Suite 700 • Washington, DC 20005 • (202) 547-0048
www.newenglandcouncil.com