



WIRES: Voice of the Electric Transmission Industry
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**WIRES REACTS TO FERC ACTION IN
DOCKET NOS. RM18-1-000 AND AD18-7-000
(THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BASELOAD PRICING PROPOSAL)**

Statement from Jim Hoecker, WIRES Counsel and Executive Director and former FERC Chairman, on the Commission's Order on DOE's baseload pricing proposal:

"The Commission's decision to reject the DOE proposal yesterday was correct from a legal standpoint and appropriate from the standpoint of reasoned decision-making. The proposal, under which FERC would theoretically provide out-of-market financial incentives to keep certain coal and nuclear plants online, was not based on substantial evidence, notwithstanding different conclusions in the solid study that the Department staff had conducted only last summer. However, the ability of the grid to withstand and recover from extreme weather, cyber, and other events remains a great concern, and I applaud the Commissioners and the new Chairman for not walking away from that issue. Of course, a major part of any solution to any challenges to the durability of the electric system is a robust transmission system, a matter squarely within FERC's plenary authority.

"Today's timely release by WIRES of a [major study](#), prepared by London Economics International, reinforces the message that transmission benefits are long-lasting and quantifiable. The outcome of the Commission's directive to RTOs and ISOs to investigate grid resilience will, in our view, hinge on whether regulators take seriously transmission's central role in preparing for the emerging electrified economy."

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About WIRES

WIRES is an international non-profit trade association of investor-, publicly-, and cooperatively-owned transmission providers, transmission customers, regional grid managers, and equipment and service companies. WIRES promotes investment in electric transmission and progressive state and federal policies that advance energy markets, economic efficiency, and consumer and environmental benefits through development of electric power infrastructure. For more information, visit www.wiresgroup.com or contact Jim Hoecker at 202-378-2316.