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May 23, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chairman  
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell:

On behalf of the members of the Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance (EEIA), I am writing to express our strong support for Neil Chatterjee and Robert Powelson to be confirmed as Commissioners of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

We represent the energy production and infrastructure supply chain, which includes millions of energy infrastructure workers employed in more than 120,000 companies, over 90% of which are small businesses. Our members work in sixty industries, annually contributing more than \$170 billion to the U.S. economy, working in every state of the union, providing construction, equipment, supplies, logistics, professional services and technology to energy operations. These workers and companies are the hard-working backbone of America's energy economy. They are the builders of an energy production and distribution system that safely delivers clean, affordable and reliable energy to America's families, communities, businesses and our nation's power grid.

Since early February, the absence of quorum at FERC has put in jeopardy many major energy-delivery infrastructure projects needed to lower energy costs to consumers and to supply clean-burning natural gas to electric generating plants. At stake in these delays are not only lower-cost supplies of natural gas to consumers and industrial customers, but also the necessary transmission capacity to supply the transition to clean-burning natural gas power generation, as well as the capacity necessary for integration of wind and solar power into the grid.

Equally concerning is the loss of tens of thousands of supply chain jobs attributable to project delays caused by absence of a quorum at FERC. These are Main Street American jobs that support families and communities across our country. Make no mistake: besides consumers, the real victims of the no-quorum situation are construction laborers, equipment operators and maintenance technicians, welders, pipefitters, truck drivers, and supporting professional, administrative, factory and warehouse workers, to name a few.

We urge you to support and expedite Committee approval of these FERC Commissioner nominees, and to work with Senate leadership and your colleagues to achieve their confirmation by the United States Senate at the earliest possible opportunity.

Sincerely,

Toby Mack  
President & CEO