

**The BIG WIRES Act**  
*Senator John Hickenlooper and Representative Peters*

***Supporters & Quotes***

**Supporters:**

- Advanced Energy United (AEU)
- AES
- American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE)
- Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (ACEG)
- Apex Clean Energy
- The Breakthrough Institute (BTI)
- Ceres
- Chambers for Innovation and Clean Energy
- ChargePoint
- Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL)
- Citizens' Climate Lobby Colorado
- Clean Air Task Force (CATF)
- Clean Energy Buyers Association (CEBA)
- Clearway Energy Group
- Colorado Solar and Storage Association (COSSA)
- CORE Electric
- CTC Global
- Cypress Creek Renewables
- Data Center Coalition (DCC)
- Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)
- EDF Renewables
- EDP Renewables
- Enel North America
- Energy Outreach Colorado
- Evangelical Environmental Network (EEN)
- Environment America
- Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)
- Grid United
- HASI
- Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF)
- Institute for Progress (IFP)
- Invenergy
- ITC Holdings Corp.
- La Plata Electric Association (LPEA)

- National Audubon Society
- National Consumer Law Center (NCLC), on behalf of its low-income clients
- National Ski Areas Association (NSAA)
- Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- Niskanen Center
- Pattern Energy
- Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association (PVREA)
- Progressive Policy Institute (PPI)
- Protect Our Winters (POW)
- Public Citizen
- Public Interest Research Group (PIRG)
- RES
- RMI
- Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Grid Security Project
- Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)
- SOLV Energy
- Southern Renewable Energy Association (SREA)
- STACK Infrastructure
- TransWest Express LLC
- TS Conductor
- Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)
- United Power
- Vestas North America
- Western Freedom
- Working for Advanced Transmission Technologies (WATT) Coalition

**Quotes from the following individuals and organizations:** Advanced Energy United (AEU) · AES · American Clean Power Association (ACP) · American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) · Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (ACEG) · Eric Blank (Chair, Colorado Public Utilities Commission) · The Breakthrough Institute (BTI) · Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) · Neil Chatterjee (Former FERC Chair) · Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) · Clean Air Task Force (CATF) · Clean Energy Buyers Association (CEBA) · CTC Global · Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON) · Data Center Coaliton (DCC) · Electricity Customer Alliance · Enel North America · Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) · Evangelical Environmental Network (EEN) · Andrew French (Commissioner, Kansas Corporation Commission) · Rich Glick (Former FERC Chair and former Co-Chair, Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission) · Grid United · Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) · Institute for Progress (IFP) · La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) · Libby Jacobs (Former Iowa State Representative and Former Iowa Utilities Board Chair) · National

Association of Convenience Stores (NACS) · National Association of Truck Stop Operators (NATSO) · National Audubon Society · National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) · Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) · Niskanen Center · Progressive Policy Institute (PPI) · Protect Our Winters (POW) · RMI · R Street Institute · Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Grid Security Project · Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America (SIGMA) · Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) · SOLV Energy · Southern Renewable Energy Association (SREA) · Jason Stanek (former Chair, Maryland Public Service Commission & former Co-Chair, Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission) · Ted Thomas (former Chair, Arkansas Public Service Commission) · Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association · Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) · United Power

### **Quotes:**

**Advanced Energy United (AEU):** “Strengthening the connections between regional electric grids will protect households and businesses from the worst effects of major power outages. Building transmission lines can also save consumers money by increasing access to least-cost generation; electricity markets lost out on upwards of \$13 billion in 2021 in part because they were not able to quickly import electricity from elsewhere in the country during some extreme weather events, according to a recent Grid Strategies study. BIG WIRES is an important step to cut through the red tape and coordination challenges that prevent beneficial interregional transmission lines from being built.” -Caitlin Marquis, Managing Director, Advanced Energy United

**AES:** “With strong customer-focused interests in utilities and renewables, AES supports The BIG WIRES Act. Its core objective ensures reliable and affordable energy by transferring meaningful peak demand between geographic regions. BIG WIRES is specific but also flexible to allow regions to apply the best available technology for their system and their customers.” -Alexina Jackson, Vice President of Strategic Development, AES

**American Clean Power Association (ACP):** “The bulk electric grid is increasingly vulnerable to disruptions caused by extreme weather. We have a critical opportunity to upgrade and expand transmission infrastructure to enhance public safety and allow for the deployment of more, low-cost clean energy which will create new job opportunities and stimulate economic growth in communities across the country. ACP appreciates the leadership shown by Senator Hickenlooper and Congressman Peters in advancing innovative ideas and focusing national attention on this critical challenge.” -Jason Grumet, CEO, American Clean Power Association

**American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE):** "As extreme weather events become more frequent, our nation’s balkanized grid is increasingly unable to reliably deliver electricity to where it’s needed. Expanding America’s interregional transmission capacity is key to keeping the

lights on. We commend Sen. Hickenlooper and Rep. Peters for introducing the BIG WIRES Act, which would establish minimum transfer requirements between transmission planning regions. This straightforward, commonsense approach would help spur the construction of the critical, interregional transmission lines needed to keep electricity costs low for American businesses and consumers and reduce the risk of power outages during times of stress on the grid. This bill represents a crucial step toward the 21st century Macro Grid we need to keep pace with global competition.” -Gregory Wetstone, President & CEO, American Council on Renewable Energy

**Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (ACEG):** “Sharing electricity between regions helps save customers money under the best of conditions, and can save lives when extreme weather hits. To share power, regions must be able to transfer it through high-capacity transmission lines, the backbone of our nation’s reliable and resilient grid. During Winter Storm Uri, the ability to transfer electricity into the Midwest helped it ride out the storm, while Texas’s lack of transfer capability made it more vulnerable to outages. As we have seen in recent years, these storms do not respect borders, and transmission can bridge the gap to maintain life-sustaining energy. ACEG supports efforts that increase transmission ties between regions to keep the lights on for all customers.” -Christina Hayes, Executive Director, Americans for a Clean Energy Grid

**Eric Blank (Chair, Colorado Public Utilities Commission):** "This country and the west certainly needs to build large amounts of new inter-regional transmission, and I think the BIG WIRES proposal helps to move the conversation forward. So, I appreciate the leadership."

**The Breakthrough Institute (BTI):** "The BIG WIRES Act is an important step towards decarbonization. By creating a glide path for interregional transmission planning, this Bill will ensure more reliable access to clean power, drive down energy costs, and create a more resilient grid. The Breakthrough Institute thanks Senator Hickenlooper and Representative Peters for their leadership in forging a pragmatic path forward.” -Nikki Chiappa, Federal Infrastructure Policy Manager, The Breakthrough Institute

**Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE):** “The modernization and expansion of energy infrastructure is critical to providing secure and reliable energy to the American people and to delivering on the potential of the Inflation Reduction Act and the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. BCSE commends the leadership of the sponsors of the BIG WIRES bill. BCSE members look forward to further reviewing the proposal as it is considered by Congress and the Biden Administration, with the hope of enacting bipartisan legislation this year.” -Lisa Jacobson, President, Business Council for Sustainable Energy

**Neil Chatterjee (Former FERC Chair):** "With the risk to grid reliability increasing from more frequent extreme weather events across the country, the ability to flow surplus electricity between regions is becoming a national imperative. That is why policies promoting more

interregional transmission are so important. I applaud Senator Hickenlooper and Representative Peters for introducing the BIG WIRES Act. By requiring that FERC establish a minimum interregional transfer capability standard, this important legislation will dramatically improve our country's ability to move power between regions where and when it's needed most, enhancing grid reliability for all Americans."

**Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL):** "CCL strongly supports the introduction of the BIG WIRES Act. Our grassroots volunteers in Sen. Hickenlooper's state and across the country will be eager to help move this policy forward. We know that America needs to start building clean energy infrastructure faster in order to meet our climate targets. Communities also deserve to have a reliable, resilient grid that can provide affordable electricity in the face of ever more extreme weather events. The BIG WIRES Act would help achieve both of these goals while giving regions and communities the flexibility to decide how best to accomplish the targets laid out in the bill. This bill should be at the forefront of the conversation about how we should reform the permitting of our energy infrastructure, and our volunteers look forward to discussing it in meetings with their members of Congress." -Ben Pendergrass, Vice President of Government Affairs, Citizens' Climate Lobby

**Clean Air Task Force (CATF):** "Investments in interregional transmission lines not only strengthen our nation's electricity system against severe weather, they also unlock the potential for cleaner and more reliable energy to power our homes and businesses. This bill marks a crucial step towards building the twenty-first century grid we deserve." -Alex Breckel, Director, Clean Energy Infrastructure Deployment, Clean Air Task Force

**Clean Energy Buyers Association (CEBA):** "The BIG WIRES Act is a constructive solution to address our nation's lack of transmission by establishing a reasonable target for a minimum transfer capacity between regional grid authorities that can shore up reliability, create substantial cost savings for customers, and meet the changing demands of the electric sector. This bill offers a strong opportunity to forge bipartisan consensus on building the transmission network we need to provide the reliable, clean, low-cost energy customers so urgently need." -Bryn Baker, Senior Director of Market and Policy Innovation, Clean Energy Buyers Association

**CTC Global:** "CTC Global thanks Senator Hickenlooper for the BIG WIRES Act. The Act would facilitate the deployment of advanced transmission conductors to increase transfer capacity between regions of the U.S. electric grid. The ability of advanced conductors to transmit twice the electricity of legacy conductors while using the existing transmission structures makes advanced conductor deployment the fastest and least expensive way to expand our nation's grid and facilitate the transition to a clean energy future. We look forward to working with Senator Hickenlooper to continue to promote this critical technology." -J.D. Sitton, CTC Global Chief Executive Officer

**Data Center Coalition (DCC):** “Internet infrastructure is essential to the modern economy and the Data Center Coalition understands the essential role that transmission plays in bringing reliable, clean energy to data centers. The BIG WIRES Act is a critical investment in expanding and modernizing our transmission infrastructure, which will help us improve resiliency and ensure that our members have access to clean energy now and in the future. The BIG WIRES Act moves us in that direction, and we look forward to working with the sponsors of the legislation to find additional ways to improve electricity markets, particularly on issues of competition and affordability.”

**Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON):** "By enhancing the electric transmission network between regions, we can unlock new opportunities for industries to thrive and expand their manufacturing operations. This improved connectivity will lead to more efficient energy utilization, greater reliability, and cost-effectiveness, ultimately driving economic growth and bolstering America's position as a global manufacturing powerhouse. Congress recognizes this potential through various transmission permitting reform proposals and bills such as the BIG WIRES Act. Investing in electric transmission solutions is an investment in our future." -Karen Onaran, President and CEO, Electricity Consumers Resource Council

**Electricity Customer Alliance:** "As America's transmission needs continue to grow to meet the resurgence of American manufacturing, current transmission practices lead to inconsistent, elevated, and unnecessary costs for electricity customers. The BIG WIRES Act is a first step, providing a pathway for much needed transmission upgrades and enhancing the reliability of the nation's electricity grid. Moving forward, the Electricity Customer Alliance will continue to work with Congress to promote transparency, accountability, and regulatory oversight, which will help ensure that customers can better participate to meet the needs of a changing electric grid." -Tom Hassenboehler, Advisory Council Member, Electricity Customer Alliance

**Enel North America:** "Enel supports the “BIG WIRES Act”, requiring US grid regional transfer capability of at least 30% of peak demand between each region. It is smart policy. Greater inter-regional transfer capacity will lower electricity costs for consumers and enhance grid reliability by allowing the electric grid to take advantage of diurnal and seasonal variation in renewable electricity production. It also results in greater electricity import and export capability, which is especially important during periods of high demand or local weather-related disruptions." -Paolo Romanacci, Head of Enel Green Power USA and Canada, Enel North America

**Environmental Defense Fund (EDF):** “After a summer that nearly broke the back of the nation’s electricity system, Sen Hickenlooper and Rep. Peters have proposed a solution that will help build a far more resilient, reliable grid – one that will help end the threat of blackouts while

accommodating more clean, renewable energy.” -Elizabeth Gore, Senior Vice President, Political Affairs, Environmental Defense Fund

**Evangelical Environmental Network (EEN):** “EEN applauds Sen. Hickenlooper and Rep. Peters for their leadership introducing the BIG WIRES Act. Recent extreme weather disasters, like this summer’s extreme heat waves and Winter Storm Uri, have tragically shown that blackouts are a matter of life and death. As evangelicals committed to defending life and livelihoods, we must connect our nation’s patchwork of regional electric grids through interregional transmission to enable our energy regions to be good neighbors to each other during times of need. The BIG WIRES Act is a big step in the right direction.” -Rev. Dr. Jessica Moerman, President and CEO, Evangelical Environmental Network

**Andrew French (Commissioner, Kansas Corporation Commission):** “Electricity must remain both affordable and reliable as we transition to cleaner energy sources. Improving our Nation’s ability to transfer energy between and among regional electric grids helps address both issues. Robust energy transfer capabilities allow customers to access lower cost energy resources, while making our grid more reliable and resilient.”

**Rich Glick (Former FERC Chair and former Co-Chair, Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission):** “Over the last several years we have witnessed what can happen when there is not enough electric transmission capacity connecting regions. Utility customers are at greater risk of losing access to power during extreme weather events, and they are often forced to pay much more for electricity than they otherwise would with a more efficient electric grid. Senator Hickenlooper and Congressman Peters deserve credit for elevating this important subject with the introduction of the BIG WIRES Act.”

**Grid United:** "Building out America's interregional transmission system presents an opportunity for ratepayers to collectively save billions on their bills while bolstering the reliability and resilience of the grid. A minimum-transfer requirement such as that envisioned by the BIG WIRES Act is a simple and straightforward way to ensure that we build the projects our system needs. Grid United supports this proposal and encourages Congress to include it in any permitting reform package it considers." -Michael Skelly, CEO, Grid United

**Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF):** "ITIF supports the BIG WIRES Act, not only because it enhances grid reliability and robustness, but also because it enables clean power innovation. Enhanced inter-regional energy transmission and storage capacity will bring more renewable energy within reach to more Americans, alleviating local air quality degradation and global climate change, and helping to build out American technology capabilities in a globally competitive market."

**Institute for Progress (IFP):** "Transmission capacity is absolutely vital for a resilient and clean grid. However, under current rules, new transmission projects can take more than a decade to site, permit, and build. The BIG WIRES Act provides a bold yet practical solution to this urgent problem by setting interregional transfer requirements. The Institute for Progress commends Senator Hickenlooper and Representative Peters for their leadership on promoting clean energy and combating climate change." -Alec Stapp, Co-CEO, Institute for Progress (IFP)

**La Plata Electric Association (LPEA):** "As a rural electric cooperative, LPEA understands the essential role that transmission plays in bringing reliable, clean energy to our communities. The BIG WIRES Act is a critical investment in expanding and modernizing our transmission infrastructure, which will help us improve our resiliency and ensure that our members have access to affordable, sustainable power now and in the future." -Jessica Matlock, CEO, La Plata Electric Association

**Libby Jacobs (Former Iowa State Representative and Former Iowa Utilities Board Chair):** "It's critical for the country's health and safety, along with supporting continued growth and economic success, that we have a strong, interconnected electricity grid. What's lacking today is a robust and fully resilient transmission system that easily transfers energy between regions, supports generation demand and growth, and keeps the power flowing. The BIG WIRES bill provides the framework to do that and ensures that each region of the country will have the capacity to meet the future energy needs of all Americans."

**National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS):** "If electricity is ever going to achieve scale as a transportation fuel, we will need the private, competitive market to make it work, provide innovation, and keep costs as efficient as possible. Electricity markets need competitive, market-oriented reforms in order to modernize and serve the needs of American consumers and businesses. We appreciate that the BIG WIRES Act moves us in that direction and look forward to working with the sponsors of the legislation to find additional ways to improve electricity markets." -Doug Kantor, General Counsel, National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS)

**National Association of Truck Stop Operators (NATSO) and Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America (SIGMA):** "With electricity serving increasingly essential needs of truckstops and fuel marketers across diverse geographies, businesses and consumers across the nation need electricity costs to be more competitive. Market-oriented reforms consistent with the principles embodied in the BIG WIRES Act are the most effective way to do that, and we support Senator Hickenlooper's leadership in implementing these reforms at any and every level of electricity delivery where they are achievable." -David Fialkov, Executive Vice President of Government Affairs, National Association of Truck Stop Operators (NATSO) and Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America (SIGMA)



**National Audubon Society:** “The climate crisis poses an existential threat to birds and people alike, which is why we have an urgent need to equitably and responsibly build out our nation's clean energy transmission infrastructure. The BIG WIRES Act would help pave the way for the rapid decarbonization of the electrical grid, while reducing impact on wildlife habitats and ensuring a high level of reliability and resilience for consumers and businesses across the country.” -Sarah Rose, Vice President of Climate, National Audubon Society

**National Ski Areas Association (NSAA):** “NSAA supports the Building Integrated Grids With Inter-Regional Energy Supply (BIG WIRES) Act because it will result in a more reliable and resilient electricity grid.

The ski industry is taking action to boost its resiliency in a changing climate, including collaborating with electric utility providers on a reliable, clean electricity supply.

Electric supply reliability is critical for ski area operations, especially given their remote location, as extreme weather events can result in interruptions, outages and price spikes. While ski areas are investing in on-site clean energy and infrastructure projects to help mitigate potential reliability concerns, including transformer upgrades, metering and sub-metering, and installation of solar, wind, micro-hydro and geothermal energy, we need the macro-level support of the BIG WIRES Act to safeguard against extreme weather events and ensure grid reliability on a broader scale.”

**Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC):** “As extreme weather events increase, our ability to keep the lights on, heaters and air conditioners running, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions hinge on the construction of new power lines,” said Cullen Howe, Senior Advocate at Natural Resources Defense Council. “The BIG WIRES Act will be a critical step to unlocking increased transmission capacity, accelerating renewable deployment, boosting reliability, and lowering costs for customers. Business as usual will not deliver the grid we need, and the sooner we begin developing the market and policy tools for a more cohesive grid, the sooner we can realize the benefits of one.” -Cullen Howe, Senior Advocate, Renewable Energy, Climate & Clean Energy Program

**Niskanen Center:** “Senator Hickenlooper and Congressman Peters approached the challenge of interregional transfer capabilities creatively and thoughtfully. The BIG WIRES Act will break the logjam that has stifled infrastructure investment for enhanced power exchange between regions. This is an opportunity to boost assistance from neighboring power grids during reliability emergencies while enabling more interregional trading on a day-to-day basis that saves customers large sums of money.”

**Progressive Policy Institute (PPI):** "America needs a newer, cleaner, more resilient power grid. The BIG WIRES Act offers a pragmatic, creative solution to this critical problem that will help combat high energy costs and increasingly frequent blackouts, connecting cheap new sources of power to communities that need them and providing desperately needed reliability assurance. PPI is proud to endorse the BIG WIRES Act." -Elan Sykes, Energy Policy Analyst, Progressive Policy Institute

**Protect Our Winters (POW):** "Protect Our Winters (POW) is proud to support Sen. Hickenlooper's BIG WIRES Act. Our country needs more energy infrastructure to meet our clean energy goals, and POW supports legislation which ensures we have the transmission system we need to protect the places and lifestyles we love from climate change. POW is grateful for Senator Hickenlooper's leadership to connect interregional transmission systems on behalf of the outdoor community."

**RMI:** "RMI applauds Senator Hickenlooper for his leadership in building a safe, reliable and modern grid by introducing the BIG WIRES Act of 2023. This forward-thinking policy would address our nation's glaring need to accelerate building interregional transmission between today's fragmented regional grids. DOE's recent Transmission Needs Study demonstrates the urgency of rapidly increasing connectivity between transmission planning regions and this bill would be a giant step in the right direction. With increased interregional transfer capacity, Americans will see fewer power outages, lower rates, and less pollution." -Chaz Teplin, Principal, Carbon-Free Electricity, RMI

**R Street Institute:** "It is encouraging to see congressional leaders providing big ideas in the BIG WIRES Act. It hits the problem statement head-on: interregional transmission has big cost and reliability advantages but there has been almost no development due to regulatory faults. We see bipartisan potential in refining the ideas of the bill, especially by tying it explicitly to solving reliability threats cost-effectively." -Devin Hartman, Director of Energy and Environmental Policy, R Street Institute

**Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Grid Security Project:** "SAFE believes that a robust and reliable transmission system is key to overall power grid reliability and security. BIG WIRES, which calls for mandatory transfer capability between transmission planning regions, would provide much needed increased reliability of our nation's power grid, particularly during periods of extreme weather and volatility. As the US continues to electrify and reindustrialize, a robust transmission system with the ability to move MWhs across regions is paramount to reliability." -Securing America's Future Energy Grid Security Project

**Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA):** "It has been more than a decade since we've seen significant build out of the transmission grid. The BIG WIRES Act requires transmission

planners to coordinate grid infrastructure upgrades to help keep energy costs down for consumers and improve systemwide reliability. We look forward to working with Senator Hickenlooper and Representative Peters to ensure this bill becomes law.” -Abigail Ross Hopper, President and CEO, Solar Energy Industries Association

**SOLV Energy:** “Unlocking America’s ability to build out needed transmission lines is long overdue and essential to our grid today and in the future. This commonsense bill will provide good-paying construction jobs in local communities and abundant workforce development opportunities that come with this kind of critical national infrastructure. We, at SOLV Energy, thank Senator Hickenlooper and Representative Peters for offering smart policy solutions to enable the expansion of an affordable, reliable, clean, and interconnected electric system, and enthusiastically support the BIG WIRES Act.” -George Hershman, CEO, SOLV Energy

**Southern Renewable Energy Association (SREA):** "Improving our country’s power grid is vital to supporting economic development and driving down consumer costs. In extreme weather events, expanding our transmission infrastructure is even more important in order to prevent blackouts and promote energy reliability. The BIG WIRES Act will boost interregional transmission efforts and unlock the full potential of renewable energy resources across the southeast, and the rest of the country." -Simon Mahan, Executive Director, Southern Renewable Energy Association

**Jason Stanek (former Chair, Maryland Public Service Commission & former Co-Chair, Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission):** "Increasing interregional transmission capacity will be critical to maintaining reasonable utility rates and sustaining a reliable bulk power system. This Bill builds upon recent discussions by the Joint Federal-State Task Force which highlighted the important role that interregional transmission will play as we strengthen our Nation’s power grid."

**Ted Thomas (former Chair, Arkansas Public Service Commission):** "Extreme weather events have impacted most areas of our country in the last few years. When regional generation capacity is unavailable for local needs because of extreme weather, generation from other regions can help serve the load and keep the lights and the heat on. We have seen existing inter-regional transmission mitigate disasters caused by extreme weather. We need to plan and optimize more inter-regional transmission so that we are better able to mitigate these kinds of disasters. The BIG WIRES proposal will bring this kind of planning and optimization so we can build more inter-regional transmission capacity. I support the BIG WIRES proposal because it will help keep the lights and the heat on during extreme weather events."

**Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association:** “Tri-State’s clean energy transition maintains power reliability and affordability for consumers—priorities that can be bolstered by

additional interregional transmission capacity—to empower us to further advance decarbonization, add more electricity generation and importantly, help ensure power is always available wherever it is needed. I'm appreciative of Senator Hickenlooper's work on the BIG WIRES Act, and I look forward to working together with the Senator to address interregional transmission cost and permitting challenges that are keys to unlock the benefits of a cleaner grid.” -Duane Highley, CEO, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association

**Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS):** “The BIG WIRES Act is an important piece of legislation aimed at addressing the shortfalls of our nation’s energy electricity transmission system. The bill will help guarantee more interregional transmission that will serve as an important backbone of an affordable, reliable, and equitable electricity grid. The BIG WIRES Act has clear bipartisan value and should be passed swiftly into law given that the benefits of increasing our ability to move power across regions are widely recognized and will serve all communities.”

**United Power:** “There is no better way to insure affordable and reliable electric power for our growing region than to significantly enhance our interregional transmission system to move power efficiently--when and where it is needed.” -Mark Gabriel, President and CEO, United Power