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August 3, 2011

The Honorable Lisa P. Jackson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 ARN
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson,

On August 1, I received correspondence from the members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (the Commission or FERC) responding to my letter of May 17, 2011. Copies of my letter and the Commissioners' responses are attached.

I asked the Commissioners, among other things, about assessments the Commission or its staff may have made regarding the impacts on electric reliability of proposed EPA regulations, including the proposed MACT Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants and NSPS for Utilities ("Utility MACT rule"). The responses to my questions are lengthy and are accompanied by a significant amount of supporting information. Insofar as the comment period for the Utility MACT rule closes on August 4, 2011 and I have just received a response to my May correspondence, I respectfully seek your commitment that you will permit me or any of my colleagues who may wish to do so to submit for the record of the proceeding by September 1, 2011 any comments that our review of the responses of the Commissioners may prompt. Moreover, I ask you to extend the same accommodation to any member of the public that otherwise has submitted comments in the proceeding by the comment deadline.

The disclosure that the Commission has not conducted any full study of the impact of the proposed rule on electric reliability but, instead, has made only a preliminary, informal assessment is highly material. The Commissioners' responses taken as a whole may significantly affect the perspectives of stakeholders. Your agency should be informed by, and the docket of the Utility MACT proposed rule can only benefit from, public commentary on the Commissioners' very recent responses to my questions. Thus, I trust you will consider this request favorably, and I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lisa A. Murkowski
United States Senator