

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To establish a Grid Deployment Authority within the Department of Energy.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—117th Cong., 1st Sess.

(no.) _____

To invest in the energy and outdoor infrastructure of the United States to deploy new and innovative technologies, update existing infrastructure to be reliable and resilient, and secure energy infrastructure against physical and cyber threats, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. KING

Viz:

1 At the end of subtitle A of title I, add the following:

2 **SEC. 1014. GRID DEPLOYMENT AUTHORITY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Department of En-
4 ergy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7131 et seq.) is amend-
5 ed by adding at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 218. GRID DEPLOYMENT AUTHORITY.**

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) AUTHORITY.—The term ‘Authority’ means
9 the Grid Deployment Authority established by sub-
10 section (b).

1 “(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means
2 the Director of the Authority appointed under sub-
3 section (d)(1).

4 “(3) REGIONAL TRANSMISSION PLANNING OR-
5 GANIZATION.—The term ‘regional transmission plan-
6 ning organization’ has the same meaning as in the
7 final rule of the Commission entitled ‘Transmission
8 Planning and Cost Allocation by Transmission Own-
9 ing and Operating Public Utilities’ (76 Fed. Reg.
10 49842 (August 11, 2011)) (or a successor rule).

11 “(4) TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATION.—The term
12 ‘Transmission Organization’ has the meaning given
13 the term in section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16
14 U.S.C. 796).

15 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within
16 the Department a Grid Deployment Authority.

17 “(c) MISSION.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The mission of the Author-
19 ity shall be to facilitate the deployment of trans-
20 mission facilities and related technologies—

21 “(A) to enhance the reliability and resil-
22 ience of the bulk power system; and

23 “(B) to integrate power-generating re-
24 sources into the electric grid.

1 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—The Authority may carry
2 out the mission described in paragraph (1) by—

3 “(A) connecting areas of high energy re-
4 sources to areas of high energy demand, includ-
5 ing through the development of a networked
6 offshore transmission system;

7 “(B) strengthening the connections be-
8 tween the Eastern Interconnection and the
9 Western Interconnection;

10 “(C) linking together transmission plan-
11 ning regions; and

12 “(D) carrying out such other activities as
13 the Director determines to be appropriate.

14 “(d) LEADERSHIP.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall be
16 headed by a Director, who shall be appointed by the
17 Secretary.

18 “(2) DUTIES OF DIRECTOR.—Subject to para-
19 graph (3) and subsection (e), the Director shall have
20 the duty and responsibility—

21 “(A) to direct, coordinate, and implement
22 programs that—

23 “(i) identify the transmission needed
24 to enable a resilient, reliable, and low-cost
25 national electric system;

1 “(ii) develop, in coordination with
2 State, Tribal, and local governments and
3 regional transmission planning organiza-
4 tions, interregional and national trans-
5 mission plans that—

6 “(I) prioritize opportunities in
7 existing rights-of-way; and

8 “(II) for purposes of subclause
9 (I), are carried out in coordination
10 with the Secretary of Transportation,
11 the Secretary of the Interior, and the
12 Secretary of Agriculture, as appro-
13 priate;

14 “(iii) facilitate the financing of trans-
15 mission infrastructure;

16 “(iv) fund the deployment of tech-
17 nologies that enhance the resilience and ca-
18 pacity of transmission facilities;

19 “(v) support, through the provision of
20 financial and technical assistance, State,
21 Tribal, and local governments and Trans-
22 mission Organizations in—

23 “(I) transmission planning;

24 “(II) transmission siting; and

1 “(III) transmission facility de-
2 ployment; and

3 “(vi) coordinate permitting and envi-
4 ronmental analyses for the construction or
5 upgrade of transmission facilities;

6 “(B) coordinate with other offices of the
7 Department with respect to the deployment of
8 transmission facilities, including the deployment
9 of transmission facilities under—

10 “(i) section 1222 of the Energy Policy
11 Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16421);

12 “(ii) section 301 of the Hoover Power
13 Plant Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 16421a);
14 and

15 “(iii) title XVII of the Energy Policy
16 Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16511 et seq.);
17 and

18 “(C) carry out such additional duties as
19 are assigned to the Director by the Secretary.

20 “(3) REQUIREMENT.—The Director shall carry
21 out the duties described in paragraph (2) in accord-
22 ance with any authority, direction, or control exer-
23 cised by the Secretary.

24 “(e) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section af-
25 fects any authority or function expressly provided to—

1 “(1) the Bonneville Power Administration;
2 “(2) the Southeastern Power Administration;
3 “(3) the Southwestern Power Administration;
4 or
5 “(4) the Western Area Power Administration.”.

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
7 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (Public
8 Law 95–91; 91 Stat. 565; 113 Stat. 954, 956; 119 Stat.
9 764) is amended by inserting after the item relating to
10 section 217 the following:

“Sec. 218. Grid Deployment Authority.”.

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such
13 sums as are necessary to carry out the functions of the
14 Grid Deployment Authority.