

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

September 29, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Dirksen 304
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

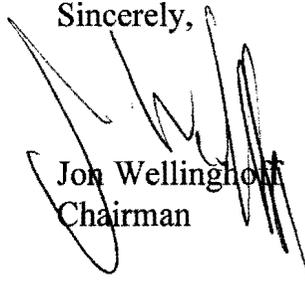
Dear Senator Murkowski:

Thank you for your letter of September 19 regarding the electric reliability impacts of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and its staff have had numerous consultations with EPA staff on issues related to EPA regulations and we will continue to do what is necessary to ensure the reliability of the nation's bulk power system.

As you state in your letter, reliability in a particular sub-region or local control area often depends on a specific plant or one or more transmission lines. Because the regional planning entities have access to specific generator and regional information and other data necessary to perform a comprehensive analysis of local and regional reliability impacts of the proposed EPA regulations, these entities are best equipped to analyze the issues you raise.

I would welcome a meeting with you to discuss your letter and how FERC's authority on electric reliability issues might address your concerns.

Sincerely,



Jon Wellinghoff
Chairman