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## 94 CONSUMER ORGANIZATIONS URGE WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL TO ADDRESS ESCALATING ELECTRICITY PRICES DRIVEN BY TRANSMISSION POLICY FAILURES

WASHINGTON, DC – The Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition <u>sent a letter</u> to National Economic Council Director Kevin Hassett asking him to consider the importance of developing a cohesive policy to ensure competition in the construction and ownership of large electric transmission projects in order to support President Trump's promise to reduce energy costs for homeowners and businesses.

In a statement, **Paul Cicio, Chair of the Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition**, said: "Consumers across the country are faced with escalating electricity prices, driven by monopoly incumbent electric utilities spending, including on transmission. At the heart of the problem are anti-market, anti-competitive and anti-consumer policies and practices by incumbent electric utilities that do not have an incentive to reduce costs of building new transmission projects."

"Transmission costs are unique in that once they are included in consumers' rates, they increase the costs of electricity for periods of up to 40 years, saddling consumers with higher electricity costs for decades to come. Today, hundreds of billions of dollars of transmission projects are being planned and acted upon."

## **About the Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition**

The Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition (ETCC) is a broad-based, nation-wide coalition committed to increasing competition in America's electricity transmission infrastructure. We advocate for common-sense policies and solutions that result in competitively priced transmission projects, which reduce energy costs for all ratepayers – from large manufacturers to residential consumers. The ETCC represents a diverse group of 95 companies and organizations from all 50 states, including manufacturing groups, retail electric consumers, state consumer advocates, think tanks, and non-incumbent transmission developers.

For more information, visit: www.electricitytransmissioncompetitioncoalition.org.

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