



## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **FERC Ignores Legal Complaint Filed Over Two Years Ago By Manufacturing Consumers Putting \$8 Billion in MISO Transmission Cost Savings at Risk**

WASHINGTON, DC – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) [filed supplemental comments](#) which request FERC act upon the Complaint filed over two years ago. FERC inaction puts \$8 billion in consumer savings at risk in MISO states (AR, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, ND, SD, WI).

Paul N. Cicio, President of IECA, made the following statement today:

Despite the fact that the Federal Power Act is first and foremost a consumer protection act, we have not seen FERC act on behalf of consumers. And despite escalating transmission costs that have caused electricity price inflation to exceed the Consumer Price Index in 18 of 20 months and that FERC has forecasted increases in decades to come, FERC has not ruled on the complaint that was filed on July 22, 2022.

Given MISO's current plan to approve \$21 billion to \$27 billion in new transmission projects via Tranche 2.1 of MISO's Long Range Transmission Plan in December 2024, the manufacturing industries urge FERC to act on the Complaint with haste. A lot of these transmission projects will be paid for by regional consumers and should therefore be subject to competition to reduce costs. Competitively bid projects have reduced costs by 25-30 percent and significantly increased accountability, including getting them built on time.

FERC also failed to protect consumers in Rule 1920 and instead developed a Right-Sizing "right of first refusal" (ROFR) loophole for incumbent monopoly electric utilities to avoid competition. We urge Congressional oversight.

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*The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.3 trillion in annual sales, over 12,000 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.9 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemicals, plastics, steel, iron*

*ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, consumer goods, building products, automotive, independent oil refining, and cement.*