



The Electricity  
Transmission  
Competition  
Coalition

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## **CPI REPORT: SEPTEMBER ELECTRICITY PRICE INFLATION INCREASES 3.7 PERCENT VS. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX OF 0.2 PERCENT**

WASHINGTON – Today’s Bureau of Labor Statistics report<sup>1</sup> states that on an annual basis, electricity price inflation rose by 3.7 percent, outpacing the CPI. Electricity prices continue to escalate even as the price of natural gas for electric generation is near an all-time low. Electricity price inflation has exceeded the CPI in 21 of the previous 28 inflation reports, including 15 straight months.

In a statement, **Paul Cicio, Chair of the Electricity Transmission Competition Coalition**, said: “Electricity price inflation is a policy failure - not a market failure. Electricity prices will continue to escalate due to tens of billions of dollars being spent on electricity transmission projects that are not competitively bid, a policy that monopoly utilities oppose to increase their profits. Without competition, utilities do not have an incentive to reduce transmission costs. Competitively bid projects routinely reduce costs by 25-30 percent.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission had an opportunity to fix the policy when they issued Order 1920, but instead created a loophole called a “right sizing” right of first refusal (ROFR).

Competitive bidding of FERC jurisdictional transmission projects can provide legally binding cost caps and accountability measures that consumers need to avoid facing higher electricity costs.

Read more about the benefits of transmission competition in ETCC’s comprehensive [report](#).

### **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](http://www.electricitytransmissioncompetitioncoalition.org).

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<sup>1</sup> Consumer Price Index Summary, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.nr0.htm>

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