



TEAM: ENERGY & INNOVATION

Issue Experts:

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SUBJECT: ACCELERATING AMERICAN ENERGY & INNOVATION – AFFORDABILITY FOR PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES

REQUESTED ACTION:

- Support programs like the recently announced Department of Energy Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation grants and advocate for Capital Region-linked project proposals. The \$500 million Notice of Funding Opportunity from the DOE can boost Sacramento-based research and development of next generation storage technology through manufacturing, materials processing, and recycling.
- Extend and strengthen federal incentives that help businesses invest in new energy generation and production technologies.
- Develop grants and funding opportunities for advanced transmission technologies and solutions that accelerate how quickly we can deliver power to the growing number of large load customers moving to the Capital Region.

HOW THIS SUPPORTS BUSINESSES:

1. **Accelerating American Innovation:** Sacramento is a national leader in research, development, and implementation of technologies that advance American energy innovation. Cal EPIC (California Energy, Power, and Innovation Collaborative) and their Innovation Hub has been a finalist for the National Science Foundation's Regional Innovation Engine grant for their work on vehicle to grid and next generation power technologies. Sacramento State University and the University of California-Davis are home to faculty, staff, and students designing power and energy technology of the future. The Capital Region is aligned in supporting American energy independence and resilience through new production and innovations.

Regional Highlights: California's \$4 million investment into Cal EPIC's Capital Charge Yard helps bring together manufacturers from across the world to study



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ways in which new vehicle technology can serve as virtual power plants to support utility grids, buildings, and individual homes.

2. **Speed to power to win the Race for AI and Quantum Computing Supremacy:**

Goldman Sachs predicts the United States needs around 100 GWs of energy by 2030 to match the growth of AI, Data Centers, and Quantum Computing. New energy generation, advanced transmission upgrades, and reliable and resilient energy grids are the backbone of the AI-driven global transformation. These investments accelerate new companies to market and advance market leaders' growth while keeping utility rates affordable for American families.

HOW THIS SUPPORTS RESIDENTS OF OUR REGION:

1. **More Power, More Choices:** Health and affordability suffer when there are limited community choices for power. Federal incentives should encourage consumers to shop for the best technologies, fueling a race to the top among U.S. manufacturers. Public funds should reward the most innovative technologies, including low- to no-carbon technologies that improve on-site generation. These technologies boost reliability and resiliency, lower costs to ratepayers and communities, and reduce American consumption of foreign oil. The Federal government's efforts to modernize the national power grid through accelerated interconnection, streamlined permitting and regulatory barriers, and improved long-term planning for new energy generation and transmission infrastructure projects are necessary for new economic growth opportunities.

Regional Highlights: Electricity rates in the Capital Region are lower than the national average and are comparable with Indiana and Ohio state averages. The convergence of affordable energy, innovative solutions to meet time to power needs, and a growing number of global leaders looking to innovate in Sacramento keeps the region competitive for recruiting and growing businesses. The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), PG&E, Roseville Electric, and other Capital Region utilities have invested in a wide variety of generation and storage technologies to ensure a reliable and resilient grid. These technologies have resulted in a power network that supports advanced manufacturing, data storage, and quantum computing while keeping prices down for ratepayers.