

Policy Agenda for a Reliable, Secure Grid

Building a reliable, secure, and affordable energy system will require solar and storage to meet U.S. energy demand for which we will need every electron that be can put on the grid. With these technologies already making up the majority of new generation being built and planned, achieving America's energy vision demands bold federal, state and regional policy actions that accelerate solar and storage deployment and strengthen grid reliability.

1 Support Energy & National Security with **Domestic Manufacturing**

Support development of fully domestic supply chains and traceability standards for solar and energy storage products and components.

2 Meet Demand Challenges of **Data Centers and AI**

Create regulatory fast track for solar and storage projects co-located in high-growth load zones.

3 Reform **Interconnection** Processes

Establish and enforce fair interconnection timelines and cost structures.

Direct utilities to increase transparency for interconnection data.

Direct utilities to make use of surplus interconnection service at the state level to add resources more quickly and efficiently.

Ensure that the country's transmission organizations continue to uphold the non-discriminatory, open-access principles which promote additional generation and energy dominance.

4 Modernize **Transmission** Infrastructure

Accelerate permitting and siting for new transmission lines at the federal level and by encouraging increased cooperation between states and regions.

Require dynamic line ratings when setting power flow limits.

Increase funding for grid-enhancing technologies (GETS), and require utilities to evaluate the benefits of GETS in resource planning, to unlock capacity from existing transmission assets.

Incentivize the use of surplus transmission capacity.

5 Invest in Long-Duration **Storage** Innovation

Foster new research and deployment strategies for the next generation of American-led battery and other storage technologies.

6

Reform **Wholesale** Market Design and Compensation

Ensure that markets value desired attributes, rather than specific types of resources.

Properly account for capacity accreditation of energy and storage by ensuring nondiscriminatory methodologies are applied consistent with real-world conditions.

Limit actions that dampen market signals, such as price caps and price floors, to send the correct price signals to markets to maintain reliability.

7

Reform State **Utility Resource Planning**

Encourage Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs) to evaluate transmission and distribution-connected solar and storage as capacity and energy resources supporting reliability.

Develop policies and resource evaluation procedures that “value-stack” all the capabilities of energy storage, including energy, capacity, frequency support, voltage support, peak shaving, and other capabilities.

8

Incentivize **Distributed Energy Resources** (DERs)

Implement virtual power plant (VPP) programs that recognize and capture value that DERs can bring to both the local and bulk power grid.

Increase deployment of 1-10 MW “front of meter” distribution-connected solar plus storage to help delay and defer distribution upgrades and support bulk power grid.

Improve system security by incentivizing commercialization and standardization of grid-forming inverters, first for energy storage and then for other inverter-based technologies.

Encourage development of VPPs and microgrids that utilize solar and storage for critical infrastructure (hospitals, fire stations), leveraging US military experience in microgrid development.