

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5964

To require the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Office of Electricity, to publish guidelines and best practices for integrated resource planning of the electricity system, provide technical assistance with respect to such guidelines and best practices, and develop a grant program for modernizing integrated resource planning, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 7, 2025

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ (for herself, Mr. CASE, and Mr. THANEDAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Office of Electricity, to publish guidelines and best practices for integrated resource planning of the electricity system, provide technical assistance with respect to such guidelines and best practices, and develop a grant program for modernizing integrated resource planning, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Integrated Resource
3 Planning Modernization Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES AND BEST PRACTICES FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY INTEGRATED
5 RESOURCE PLANNING.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
8 with State public utility commissions, State energy offices,
9 owners or operators of electric utilities (including investor-
10 owned utilities, municipal utilities, and electric coopera-
11 tives), balancing area authorities, Transmission Organiza-
12 tions, and other relevant stakeholders, shall develop guide-
13 lines and best practices for integrated resource planning
14 of the electricity system.

15 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—

16 (1) KEY ISSUES.—The guidelines and best
17 practices developed under subsection (a) shall ad-
18 dress key issues related to integrated resource plan-
19 ning. In developing the guidelines and best practices,
20 the Secretary shall consider, at a minimum, the fol-
21 lowing issues, while retaining discretion to incor-
22 porate additional considerations and to refine the
23 scope, level of detail, and implementation approaches
24 for each issue as appropriate:

25 (A) Developing capacity expansion mod-
26 eling and resource adequacy analysis in an

1 iterative manner to improve integrated resource
2 planning by ensuring the expanded electricity
3 system achieves resource adequacy while mini-
4 mizing costs.

5 (B) The consideration of a wide range of
6 alternatives for capacity expansion models to
7 meet resource adequacy targets, including the
8 traditional expansion of electricity generation
9 and transmission capacity and the use of novel
10 grid-enhancing technologies, small and large-
11 scale storage, distributed energy resources, be-
12 hind-the-meter interventions, and demand-side
13 interventions.

14 (C) Explicit consideration of electric trans-
15 mission in capacity expansion modeling and its
16 contribution to resource adequacy and reli-
17 ability of electricity systems.

18 (D) The use of an interregional planning
19 approach in capacity expansion modeling to
20 evaluate the resource adequacy benefits of ca-
21 pacity resource sharing across regions, includ-
22 ing through collaboration between States, bal-
23 ancing area authorities, electric utilities, Trans-
24 mission Organizations, and other relevant
25 stakeholders.

1 (E) The integration of technical, financial,
2 and regulatory information from other fuel sup-
3 ply systems, such as the natural gas network.

4 (F) The use of scenario analysis developed
5 using capacity expansion modeling and trans-
6 mission expansion modeling to represent a full
7 range of future characteristics of the electricity
8 system, including the availability of different
9 electricity generating and storage resources,
10 and transmission infrastructure.

11 (G) The use of probabilistic models in re-
12 source adequacy analysis to account for varia-
13 bility and uncertainty in the supply and de-
14 mand of electricity, including the impact of ex-
15 treme weather event scenarios, forecasting er-
16 rors, fuel prices, and other uncertainties on
17 such supply and demand.

18 (H) The use of historical weather data and
19 forward-looking meteorological projections, in-
20 cluding with respect to extreme weather event
21 scenarios, to account for the variability in elec-
22 tricity demand, electricity generation from indi-
23 vidual or groups of electricity generators, and
24 electricity system outages to assess resource
25 adequacy.

1 (I) The use of multiple resource adequacy
2 metrics for assessing resource adequacy to ac-
3 count for the magnitudes, frequencies, and du-
4 rations of potential events that stress the elec-
5 tricity system.

6 (J) The use of scorecards that summarize
7 the costs and a wide range of benefits of sce-
8 narios developed through the integrated re-
9 source planning process, including—

- 10 (i) costs of infrastructure investments;
- 11 (ii) environmental sustainability;
- 12 (iii) resource adequacy and reliability;
- 13 (iv) economic impacts; and
- 14 (v) other costs and benefits that are
15 relevant to the decision-making objectives
16 of States, electric utilities, balancing area
17 authorities, Transmission Organizations,
18 and other relevant stakeholders.

19 (K) The use of rigorous mechanisms for
20 capacity accreditation to measure the capacity
21 value of possible investments that support re-
22 source adequacy, including—

- 23 (i) capacity values for both conven-
24 tional and emerging generation resources,

1 including distributed energy resources and
2 behind-the-meter interventions;

3 (ii) capacity values for demand-side
4 interventions; and

5 (iii) capacity values for transmission
6 infrastructure upgrades and grid-enhanc-
7 ing technologies that enable the deliver-
8 ability of generating capacity from remote
9 or otherwise constrained generation re-
10 sources.

11 (L) The use of probabilistic metrics to
12 measure capacity values that account for prob-
13 ability distributions of the magnitudes, fre-
14 quencies, and durations of potential events that
15 affect the availability of—

16 (i) conventional and emerging genera-
17 tion resources, behind-the-meter interven-
18 tions, and demand-side interventions; and

19 (ii) transmission infrastructure up-
20 grades and grid-enhancing technologies
21 that enable the deliverability of electricity
22 from remote or otherwise constrained gen-
23 eration resources.

24 (2) STATE TREATMENT OF INTEGRATED RE-
25 SOURCE PLANS.—In developing the guidelines and

1 best practices under subsection (a), the Secretary
2 shall consider providing guidance on how State pub-
3 lic utility commissions and State energy offices may
4 review and respond to integrated resource plans, in-
5 cluding guidance on—

6 (A) opportunities for public engagement
7 and comment, including well-designed stake-
8 holder involvement processes with several op-
9 portunities for feedback and transparent access
10 to data inputs, models, licenses, and other re-
11 quirements for relevant stakeholders to rep-
12 licate modeling outputs from integrated re-
13 source planning; and

14 (B) the connection between integrated re-
15 source planning outcomes and regulatory ac-
16 tions, such as procurement decisions, certifi-
17 cates of public convenience and necessity, and
18 general rate cases.

19 (c) PUBLICATION OF GUIDELINES AND BEST PRAC-
20 TICES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enact-
21 ment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish on a publicly
22 accessible website of the Department of Energy the guide-
23 lines and best practices developed under subsection (a).

1 (d) PERIODIC EVALUATIONS AND REVISIONS.—The
2 Secretary shall, not less frequently than once every 5
3 years—

4 (1) evaluate the guidelines and best practices
5 published under this section; and

6 (2) revise such guidelines and best practices
7 and publish such revised guidelines and best prac-
8 tices in accordance with this section.

9 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

10 The Secretary shall provide to State public utility
11 commissions, State energy offices, owners or operators of
12 electric utilities, balancing area authorities, Transmission
13 Organizations, and other relevant stakeholders training
14 resources and technical assistance (including workshops,
15 training sessions, and education materials) to increase un-
16 derstanding of the guidelines and best practices published
17 under section 2.

18 **SEC. 4. INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING MODERNIZA-**
19 **TION GRANTS PROGRAM.**

20 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
21 a program, to be known as the “Integrated Resource Plan-
22 ning Modernization Grants Program”, under which the
23 Secretary shall, subject to the availability of appropria-
24 tions, provide grants to States in accordance with this sec-
25 tion.

1 (b) STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLANS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—A State may apply for a
3 grant under the Integrated Resource Planning Mod-
4 ernization Grants Program by submitting to the
5 Secretary a plan describing how the State intends to
6 use the grant in accordance with subsection (c).

7 (2) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 2
8 years after a State receives a grant under the Inte-
9 grated Resource Planning Modernization Grants
10 Program, the State shall submit to the Secretary a
11 report describing how the grant has been used and
12 the progress the State has made—

13 (A) in the case of a vertically integrated
14 State, developing or updating the integrated re-
15 source planning requirements, statutes, or regu-
16 lations of the State; and

17 (B) in the case of a restructured State, co-
18 ordinating with electric utilities, balancing area
19 authorities, and Transmission Organizations to
20 develop and implement a strategy to employ in-
21 tegrated resource planning in the State.

22 (c) USE OF GRANTS.—

23 (1) VERTICALLY INTEGRATED STATES.—A
24 vertically integrated State that receives a grant

1 under the Integrated Resource Planning Moderniza-
2 tion Grants Program—

3 (A) shall use the grant to—

4 (i) develop or update integrated re-
5 source planning requirements, statutes, or
6 regulations of the State to be partly or
7 fully consistent with guidelines and best
8 practices published under section 2;

9 (ii) support regulated electric utilities
10 with complying with such requirements,
11 statutes, or regulations; and

12 (iii) support non-regulated electric
13 utilities (including municipal utilities and
14 electric cooperatives) that choose to par-
15 ticipate in integrated resource planning
16 that complies with such requirements, stat-
17 utes, or regulations; and

18 (B) may use the grant to—

19 (i) pay expenses associated with con-
20 sultants (including private consultants and
21 federally funded research and development
22 centers), staffing, software and modeling,
23 and stakeholder engagement activities nec-
24 essary for the State public utility commis-
25 sion and State energy offices to develop or

1 update integrated resource planning re-
2 quirements, statutes, or regulations of the
3 State as described in subparagraph (A)(i);
4 and

5 (ii) provide amounts to electric utili-
6 ties, balancing area authorities, and Trans-
7 mission Organizations, which may be used
8 to recover the costs of complying with such
9 requirements, statutes, or regulations.

10 (2) RESTRUCTURED STATES.—A restructured
11 State that receives a grant under the Integrated Re-
12 source Planning Modernization Grants Program—

13 (A) shall use the grant to coordinate with
14 electric utilities, balancing area authorities, and
15 Transmission Organizations to develop and im-
16 plement a strategy to employ integrated re-
17 source planning in the State that is partly or
18 fully consistent with the guidelines and best
19 practices published under section 2; and

20 (B) may use such grant to—

21 (i) pay expenses associated with con-
22 sultants (including private consultants and
23 federally funded research and development
24 centers), staffing, software and modeling,
25 and stakeholder engagement activities nec-

1 essary for the State to develop and imple-
2 ment a strategy to employ integrated re-
3 source planning in the State as described
4 in subparagraph (A); and

5 (ii) provide amounts to electric utili-
6 ties, balancing area authorities, and Trans-
7 mission Organizations, which may be used
8 to recover the costs of implementing the
9 strategy described in subparagraph (A).

10 (d) FIRST APPLICATIONS.—A State may apply for a
11 grant provided under the Integrated Resource Planning
12 Modernization Grants Program beginning not later than
13 6 months after the initial publication of the guidelines and
14 best practices under section 2.

15 (e) DEADLINE TO USE GRANT.—A State that re-
16 ceives a grant provided under the Integrated Resource
17 Planning Modernization Grants Program shall use such
18 grant by not later than the date that is 5 years after the
19 date on which the State received the grant.

20 (f) GRANT FORMULA.—The Secretary shall deter-
21 mine the amount of a grant provided under the Integrated
22 Resource Planning Modernization Grants Program based
23 on—

24 (1) whether the State already requires electric
25 utilities to employ integrated resource planning;

1 (2) the comprehensiveness of the State’s imple-
2 mentation plan submitted under subsection (b), in-
3 cluding the extent to which the implementation plan
4 incorporates components of the guidelines and best
5 practices published under section 2;

6 (3) the number of electricity consumers in the
7 State;

8 (4) the capacity and mix of electric generating
9 and transmitting infrastructure in the State;

10 (5) the number and diversity of electric utilities,
11 balancing area authorities, and Transmission Orga-
12 nizations engaged in the electricity system planning
13 and operation activities of the State; and

14 (6) any other factor the Secretary determines
15 appropriate to support integrated resource planning.

16 **SEC. 5. COORDINATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS.**

17 The Secretary may coordinate with other Federal
18 programs related to energy resilience and modernization
19 of the electricity system to—

20 (1) maximize the impact of grants provided
21 under the Integrated Resource Planning Moderniza-
22 tion Grants Program by aligning efforts and avoid-
23 ing duplication; and

24 (2) ensure that the guidelines and best prac-
25 tices published under this Act complement and sup-

1 port other Federal initiatives aimed at enhancing the
2 resilience and reliability of electricity systems.

3 **SEC. 6. PERIODIC REPORTS.**

4 Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, and not less frequently than once every 5 years
6 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate
7 congressional committees a report that includes the fol-
8 lowing:

9 (1) A description of how vertically integrated
10 States and restructured States used grants provided
11 under the Integrated Resource Planning Moderniza-
12 tion Grants Program.

13 (2) A breakdown of the expenses paid using
14 such grants.

15 (3) An assessment of the effectiveness of the
16 use of the grants in supporting the development of,
17 and compliance with, integrated resource planning
18 that is partly or fully consistent with the guidelines
19 and best practices published under this Act, includ-
20 ing examples of best practices and innovative ap-
21 proaches that were adopted.

22 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this Act:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Energy and Com-
5 merce of the House of Representatives; and

6 (B) the Committee on Energy and Natural
7 Resources of the Senate.

8 (2) BALANCING AREA AUTHORITY.—The term
9 “balancing area authority” means the responsible
10 entity that—

11 (A) integrates resource plans in advance of
12 real-time operations;

13 (B) maintains the balance between elec-
14 tricity demand, electricity supply, and scheduled
15 interchange within the geographic area of the
16 responsible entity; and

17 (C) supports interconnection frequency in
18 real-time.

19 (3) BEHIND-THE-METER INTERVENTION.—The
20 term “behind-the-meter intervention”—

21 (A) means an action or technology that re-
22 duces or shifts electricity demand or provides
23 local electricity generation or storage capacity
24 at the site of a customer; and

25 (B) includes—

1 (i) an energy efficiency upgrade, a
2 residential solar panel, an energy storage
3 system, and the actions taken under a de-
4 mand response program; and

5 (ii) interventions that help to reduce
6 strain on the electricity system and im-
7 prove the reliability of the electricity sys-
8 tem during peak demand periods or emer-
9 gencies.

10 (4) CAPACITY ACCREDITATION.—The term “ca-
11 pacity accreditation” means the process of deter-
12 mining a capacity value.

13 (5) CAPACITY EXPANSION MODELING.—The
14 term “capacity expansion modeling” means mathe-
15 matical modeling to identify the least cost invest-
16 ments in generation, storage, behind-the-meter inter-
17 ventions, distributed resource, and transmission in-
18 frastructure required to meet future electricity de-
19 mand, subject to fuel prices, technology cost and
20 performance, policy and regulation, and other con-
21 straints and conditions.

22 (6) CAPACITY VALUE.—The term “capacity
23 value”—

24 (A) means a measure of the contribution
25 to resource adequacy by—

1 (i) a conventional or emerging gener-
2 ating resource, behind-the-meter interven-
3 tion, or demand-side intervention; or

4 (ii) a transmission infrastructure up-
5 grade or grid-enhancing technology that
6 enables the deliverability of electricity from
7 remote or otherwise constrained generation
8 resources; and

9 (B) includes probabilistic metrics such as
10 effective load-carrying capacity, equivalent firm
11 capacity, and equivalent conventional power.

12 (7) DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCE.—The
13 term “distributed energy resource” means a small-
14 scale electricity generation or storage system that is
15 located close to the point of use, such as a rooftop
16 solar panel, home energy storage system, or commu-
17 nity wind power system.

18 (8) ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE.—The term “elec-
19 tric cooperative” means a not-for-profit entity that—

20 (A) provides electricity to members of the
21 entity; and

22 (B) is owned and operated by such mem-
23 bers.

24 (9) GRID-ENHANCING TECHNOLOGY.—The term
25 “grid-enhancing technology”—

1 (A) means a technology designed to im-
2 prove the reliability, efficiency, or flexibility of
3 the electricity system; and

4 (B) includes a smart grid technology, an
5 energy storage system, and an advanced grid
6 management system.

7 (10) INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING.—The
8 term “integrated resource planning” has the mean-
9 ing given such term in section 3 of the Public Utility
10 Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2602).

11 (11) MUNICIPAL UTILITY.—The term “munic-
12 ipal utility” means a municipal corporation that op-
13 erates facilities used to generate, purchase, transmit,
14 or distribute electricity to consumers.

15 (12) RESOURCE ADEQUACY.—The term “re-
16 source adequacy” means the ability of the electricity
17 system to maintain sufficient, available generating,
18 storage, and transmitting capacity and supporting
19 infrastructure to meet forecasted electricity demand
20 and system reliability requirements under a range of
21 expected and adverse weather-sensitive conditions,
22 including peak load events, generation availability,
23 and unplanned outages.

24 (13) RESOURCE ADEQUACY METRIC.—The term
25 “resource adequacy metric”—

1 (A) means a quantitative measure of the
2 resource adequacy of the electricity system; and

3 (B) includes metrics derived from prob-
4 abilistic analysis, such as loss-of-load expecta-
5 tion, loss-of-load hours, loss-of-load days, loss-
6 of-load years, loss-of-load probability, loss-of-
7 load events, expected unserved energy, and nor-
8 malized expected unserved energy.

9 (14) RESTRUCTURED STATE.—The term “re-
10 structured State” means a State in which the elec-
11 tricity system has been functionally separated such
12 that independent power producers provide generation
13 services, while Transmission Organizations operate
14 electricity markets and the bulk transmission of elec-
15 tricity, and investor-owned utilities typically retain
16 responsibility for distribution services and deliver
17 electricity to retail customers.

18 (15) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
19 means the Secretary of Energy, acting through the
20 head of the Office of Electricity of the Department
21 of Energy.

22 (16) TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATION.—The term
23 “Transmission Organization” has the meaning given
24 such term in section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16
25 U.S.C. 796).

1 (17) VERTICALLY INTEGRATED STATE.—The
2 term “vertically integrated State” means a State in
3 which the electricity system remains functionally ag-
4 gregated such that a regulated electric utility owns
5 and operates the assets used for generating, trans-
6 mitting, and distributing electricity within a par-
7 ticular service area within the State.

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