

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6633

To establish a best-available transmission conductor standard for certain transmission projects under the Federal Power Act and to provide for presumptions regarding cost recovery for such conductors.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2025

Mrs. FEDORCHAK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a best-available transmission conductor standard for certain transmission projects under the Federal Power Act and to provide for presumptions regarding cost recovery for such conductors.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “High-Capacity Grid
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. BEST-AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION CONDUCTOR**
2 **STANDARD.**

3 Section 205 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C.
4 824d) is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(h) **BEST-AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION CONDUCTOR**
6 **STANDARD.**—

7 “(1) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection:

8 “(A) **BEST-AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION**
9 **CONDUCTOR.**—The term ‘best-available trans-
10 mission conductor’ means a transmission con-
11 ductor that, as determined by the Commission
12 by rule under paragraph (5)—

13 “(i) provides the greatest feasible and
14 commercially available energy-carrying ca-
15 pacity at a given voltage level;

16 “(ii) provides the highest feasible and
17 commercially available electrical efficiency
18 at that voltage level; and

19 “(iii) mitigates thermal sag at the
20 maximum rated transmission-carrying ca-
21 pacity of the facility.

22 “(B) **COVERED PROJECT.**—The term ‘cov-
23 ered project’ means—

24 “(i) the construction of a new trans-
25 mission facility subject to the jurisdiction

1 of the Commission under section 201(b);
2 and

3 “(ii) any modification, upgrade, re-
4 placement, or reconditioning of an existing
5 transmission line subject to such jurisdic-
6 tion.

7 “(2) PRESUMPTION OF PRUDENCE FOR BEST-
8 AVAILABLE TRANSMISSION CONDUCTORS.—In any
9 filing seeking to recover the cost of a transmission
10 conductor for a covered project, and in any pro-
11 ceeding to determine whether such cost may be re-
12 covered through rates, the Commission shall pre-
13 sume that the use of a best-available transmission
14 conductor is a prudent practice and that the associ-
15 ated costs are just and reasonable.

16 “(3) PRESUMPTION AGAINST RECOVERY OF
17 COSTS FOR NON-BEST-AVAILABLE CONDUCTORS.—In
18 any filing seeking to recover the cost of a trans-
19 mission conductor for a covered project, and in any
20 proceeding to determine whether such cost may be
21 recovered through rates, the Commission shall pre-
22 sume that the use of a transmission conductor that
23 is not a best-available transmission conductor is not
24 prudent and that the associated costs are not just
25 and reasonable.

1 “(4) APPLICABILITY.—The requirements of this
2 subsection apply only to public utilities and only
3 with respect to covered projects that are subject to
4 the jurisdiction of the Commission under section
5 201(b).

6 “(5) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days
7 after the date of enactment of this subsection, the
8 Commission shall promulgate regulations to imple-
9 ment this subsection. In promulgating such regula-
10 tions, the Commission shall—

11 “(A) establish a methodology for deter-
12 mining whether a transmission conductor is a
13 best-available transmission conductor for pur-
14 poses of this subsection;

15 “(B) ensure that such methodology is con-
16 sistent with the criteria set forth in paragraph
17 (1)(A); and

18 “(C) provide for periodic review and updat-
19 ing of the methodology to reflect improvements
20 in technology, materials, and system perform-
21 ance.”.

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