



MEMORANDUM

TO: IEDA Board
RE: Power Committee Report
DATE: March 7th, 2025

National Energy Dominance Council

On February 14th, President Trump signed an Executive Order establishing the National Energy Dominance Council. It looks to expand all forms of energy (except solar and wind are omitted).

Secretary Burgum (DOI) will serve as chair, with Secretary Wright (Energy) as vice-chair. It will also consist of 17+ (mostly) cabinet members. They will have a special focus on increased energy production, permitting (reform), generation, transmission and distribution. There is also a reference to private-public cooperation (partnerships?) in the order.

The order also seeks to bring back on-line moth-balled plants, bring SMR's online and approving the construction of natural gas pipelines to underserved areas.

IEDA should consider submitting a letter to the National Energy Dominance Council (possibly in conjunction with others) regarding Arizona/SW based opportunities that will benefit our members, including increased gas pipeline capacity, natural gas storage in Eloy, energy storage (BESS or pump storage) to optimize the solar glut, and expedited transmission lines for regional price stability and energy reliability.

DOE Nuclear Study Grant

The "big 3" (APS/SRP/TEP) have applied for a grant from the \$900M DOE Grant program (announced June 2024) to aid nuclear development. According to a TVA article, the majority of the grant was designed for the first 2 movers.

If approved, the grant would support a three-year site selection process and possible preparation of an early site permit application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The joint effort could see the selection of a preferred nuclear site in the late 2020s, at the earliest, potentially enabling additional nuclear to be in operation in the early 2040s.

[Arizona utilities explore nuclear expansion - Nuclear Engineering International](#)

<https://www.tva.com/energy/technology-innovation/advanced-nuclear-solutions>

<https://www.powermag.com/tva-taps-bechtel-sargent-lundy-and-ge-hitachi-for-clinch-river-smr-nuclear-project/>

<https://www.gatesnotes.com/wyoming-terrapower-groundbreaking>

<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/smr-nuscale-earnings-data-center-fluor-nrc/741639/>

SRP Rate Increase – Adam McAnally

The proposal will result in an overall 2.4% increase for SRP customers (3.5% for residential), effective with the November 2025 billing cycle

FERC Colocation Review

FERC today voted unanimously to launch a review of issues associated with the co-location of large loads such as AI-enabled data centers at generating facilities in PJM, including whether the PJM tariff needs to establish rules to create clarity while ensuring grid reliability and fair costs to consumers. The Commission's inquiry is initially focused on PJM, the nation's largest grid operator, because of the number of proceedings arising in PJM from co-location of generators with large load customers such as data centers.

Governor Newsom Declares State of Emergency to Clear State's Forests

On March 1, 2025, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency to expedite fire-prevention projects. This order follows Executive

Order N-4-25 to expedite housing projects by suspending the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and the California Coastal Act to rebuild areas devastated by the wildfires in January.

This latest Proclamation suspends certain environmental protection laws that may impede state and local government’s ability to permit and implement high-priority forest management projects. Explaining that wildfires have grown in size, duration, and destructiveness due to drastic oscillation between extreme rain and extreme drought, Governor Newsom emphasized the importance and necessity of this measure.

Governor Newsom also suspended statutes, rules, regulations, and requirements that fall within the jurisdiction of the California Environmental Protection Agency (“CalEPA”) and the California Natural Resources Agency to the extent necessary, as long as it is approved by the appropriate agency secretary.

The Proclamation also allows non-state entities and individuals to conduct critical fuels reduction projects and benefit from the suspension.