

Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

The Power Companies of North Dakota ("PCND") urges a "Do Pass" recommendation on HCR 3015.

PCND is a coalition of the state's leading shareholder-owned gas and electric utilities. Our members include MDU Resources Group, Xcel Energy, Otter Tail Power Company, and ALLETE. Together, PCND members serve over 427,000 North Dakota customers, employ over 1,200 North Dakotans, and manage significant power generation and transmission infrastructure across our state.

Reliability is at the heart of everything our members do. Yet, as baseload resources retire faster than they are replaced, maintaining a stable power supply becomes increasingly challenging. HCR 3015 encourages the Southwest Power Pool and Midcontinent Independent System Operator to take proactive steps to strengthen grid reliability by addressing market shortcomings that have contributed to this imbalance.

By ensuring all generation resources are valued based on their contributions to reliability, and that dispatchable baseload resources receive appropriate compensation, we can help maintain a resilient and affordable power system for North Dakota. A well-balanced market must support generation that is available at all hours to meet demand, ensuring long-term grid stability for our customers.

Reliability is what we do every day, and this resolution is about that same commitment making sure the power is there when North Dakotans need it. Therefore, PCND supports HCR 3015.

Thank you, Chairman Patten and committee members.