

**Sponsors: Imperial Irrigation District; Southern California Public Power Authority; California
Municipal Utilities Association**

In Support of Reliable and Affordable Energy Infrastructure

1 More than 54 million people in over 2,000 towns and cities nationwide receive their power from commu-
2 nity-owned, not-for-profit public power utilities. To provide reliable and affordable power, public power
3 utilities own and operate an extensive infrastructure network, including generation, transmission, and dis-
4 tribution. Maintaining robust, reliable infrastructure is critical to public power to safeguard the health,
5 safety, and welfare of their communities while supporting the businesses that fuel domestic economic
6 growth.

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8 Public power utilities face many challenges as they work to maintain reliable and affordable electric service,
9 including unprecedented demand growth due to artificial intelligence, data centers, and transportation elec-
10 trification, supply chain constraints, the integration of distributed energy resources and intermittent renew-
11 able generation, and the mitigation of physical and cybersecurity risks. These challenges require significant
12 infrastructure investment in the coming years and decades.

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14 Recognizing the critical importance of energy and power infrastructure, Congress included significant fund-
15 ing for programs like the Department of Energy’s Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP)
16 Program, Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance (RMUC)
17 Program, and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program in the most recent federal infra-
18 structure bill, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (Public Law 117-58). Hundreds of public
19 power utilities received funding from these and other infrastructure funding programs, allowing them to
20 make critical investments to improve reliability and resilience and increase efficiency and security, all while
21 keeping rates affordable for their customers. However, the need for energy infrastructure investment con-
22 tinues to outpace the availability of funding, with many utilities not receiving the necessary funding or
23 lacking the resources to apply for funding at all.

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25 **NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED:** That the American Public Power Association (APPA)
26 strongly supports efforts to maintain a reliable and robust energy grid throughout the United States, which
27 is essential to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public and to supporting domestic economic
28 growth; and

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30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA supports efforts in Congress to invest in energy and grid
31 infrastructure that will ensure reliable and affordable power for public power utilities and their customers;
32 and

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA believes that investments in energy infrastructure are not
34 only vital in ensuring reliable and affordable electricity today but are also critical to helping public power
35 utilities meet rising electricity demand, protect our electricity system from physical and cybersecurity risks,
36 and restore power to homes and businesses following extreme weather; and

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38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA believes that federal support for energy infrastructure, in-
39 cluding, but not limited to technical assistance, grants, research, development, and deployment programs,
40 loans, or incentive payments, should utilize simple, streamlined, and transparent applications, that allow
41 for broad access and provide the necessary flexibility for not-for-profit utilities, especially those with lim-
42 ited resources, to ensure the benefits of infrastructure investments are accessible to all public power utilities;
43 and

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45 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA supports ongoing federal investment and support for the
46 energy infrastructure that public power needs to provide their communities with reliable, affordable, and
47 sustainable electricity.