



Edison Electric
INSTITUTE

Thomas R. Kuhn
President

December 16, 2019

The Honorable Conor Lamb
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jamie Herrera Beutler
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Lamb and Herrera Beutler:

The Edison Electric Institute (EEI) appreciates your leadership in introducing H.R. 5428, the Grid Modernization Research and Development Act, which aims to address critical research and development (R&D) funding needs for grid modernization efforts by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the electric power sector. EEI is the association that represents all U.S. investor-owned electric companies. Our members provide electricity for more than 220 million Americans and operate in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The electric power industry supports more than 7 million jobs in communities across the country and contributes \$865 billion annually to U.S. gross domestic product, about 5 percent of the total.

EEI's member companies invest more than \$110 billion each year to make the energy grid stronger, smarter, cleaner, more dynamic, and more secure; to diversify the nation's energy mix; and to integrate new technologies that benefit customers. They are united in their commitment to get as clean as they can, as fast as they can, while keeping reliability and affordability front and center, as always, for the customers and communities they serve.

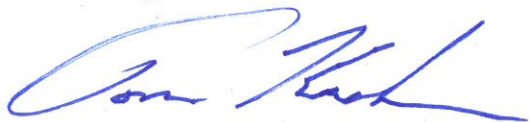
Congress plays an essential role in promoting and funding federal R&D efforts at DOE. H.R. 5428 provides DOE and investor-owned electric companies with the tools that are essential to building and deploying smarter energy infrastructure. The electric power industry is best positioned to understand and maximize the value of different technologies and systems that can help optimize the operation of the energy grid, integrate renewable resources, and recover more quickly from natural disasters.

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Your legislation is a valuable contribution to the effort to capitalize on DOE's global leadership in energy innovation and the private sector's ability to deploy cost-effective, reliable energy infrastructure that benefits customers nationwide. We appreciate your leadership in introducing H.R. 5428 and look forward to continuing our work with you on clean energy and smarter energy infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Kuhn", with a stylized, cursive script.

Tom Kuhn