

June 28, 2018

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of our free market organizations and the millions of Americans we represent, we urge you to oppose a federal bailout of energy companies under Section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act. Such a bailout would cost taxpayers billions of dollars and would represent an inappropriate government intervention into energy markets.

We applaud your work to roll back unnecessary and duplicative regulations that have hampered our energy sector for far too long. Your efforts have helped create a more level playing field for competing energy sources to the great benefit of consumers and American energy companies. However, a government bailout would mark a significant departure from your market-based approach by tilting the field in the favor of certain companies.

Section 202(c) is reserved for national emergencies and security threats. It must be used judiciously and only when merited by the broad national interest -- not to prop up individual companies that are dealing with financial difficulties. As it currently stands, no significant security threat currently exists and the reliability of our electricity grid is not in danger. Indeed, PJM Interconnection, which manages electricity reliability for 13 states and the District of Columbia, stated that there is "no immediate threat to system reliability from plant retirements."

Thank you for your efforts to strengthen our nation's vital energy sector by addressing the tax and regulatory climate. We urge you to continue your efforts to reduce harmful government interference in the sector by rejecting unwarranted bailouts of energy companies under the guise of national security concerns.

Sincerely,

Pete Sepp, President

National Taxpayers Union

David Williams, President

Taxpayers Protection Alliance

Grover Norquist, President

Americans for Tax Reform

Brent Wm. Gardner, Chief Government Affairs Officer

Americans for Prosperity

Tom Schatz, President

Council for Citizens Against Government Waste

Jonathan Bydlak, President

Coalition to Reduce Spending

Steve Ellis, Executive Vice President

Taxpayers for Common Sense

