



**Jim Matheson**  
Chief Executive Officer

October 10, 2017

The Honorable Rick Perry  
Secretary  
US Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Secretary –

Thank you for jumpstarting a conversation about the need to reform the nation's organized electricity markets. It is an important conversation for the electric industry and our nation, and we look forward to working with you, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and other stakeholders to address shortcomings in today's market rules.

We share your concern that current centralized markets do not fully realize their promise. The markets need major reforms if they are to ensure a reliable, resilient supply of affordable electric power in the years ahead. NRECA and our members have made these points and been part of the lengthy dialogue over the appropriate role of the markets in comments to FERC, testimony on Capitol Hill, industry conferences, and other venues.

NRECA has championed policies to secure a safe, affordable, and reliable supply of electricity to the nation's electric cooperatives and their members. We were an early proponent of efforts by the Commission to foster greater competition in the nation's wholesale electric markets, with the belief that access to competing suppliers of wholesale power would benefit our cooperatives and their members. We continue to believe that the centralized and bilateral wholesale markets can be made to work for the benefit of cooperatives and all the households, farms, and businesses that depend upon them.

Again, we greatly appreciate your leadership and look forward to continuing to constructively work on reforms to the nation's electric markets that protect consumers' interests and keep power affordable, reliable, and safe.

Sincerely,



Jim Matheson  
CEO, NRECA