



March 31, 2014

The Honorable Mary Landrieu
Chairwoman
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Landrieu and Ranking Member Murkowski:

The undersigned associations appreciate your continuing recognition and support for electric power industry efforts to protect the security of the electric grid. We commend you for your efforts to prevent public disclosure of sensitive information that could jeopardize that security if it fell into the wrong hands, including your recent call for an investigation into apparent leaks of sensitive Federal Energy Regulatory Commission documents to the press.

The electric power industry takes physical and cyber security of the electric grid very seriously. The notion that recent media stories have suddenly spurred the industry to action, or somehow enhanced grid security, is inaccurate. In fact, our industry has long been working to improve grid security in a collaborative effort with our government partners to help address vulnerabilities on the electric system. Disclosure of sensitive information like this complicates efforts to protect our critical infrastructure while maintaining appropriate information sharing efforts.

Information sharing is an important part of grid security efforts, and the industry-government partnership that has been built to protect our critical infrastructure is a relationship built on trust that the information will not be compromised. Release of sensitive information only results in a reluctance to share it.

We support your efforts to discover the facts surrounding this unfortunate release of information and ensure that it does not happen in the future, so that our partnership with the government remains strong, and we can continue to work collaboratively on protecting the electric infrastructure which is critical to national security and public safety.

American Public Power Association
Edison Electric Institute
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association