

Subcommittee name: Grid Resilience for National Security

The Challenge: DOE and its electric industry partners are making significant progress in strengthening grid resilience. However, because the grid is vital to US national security, public health and safety, and the US economy, national state adversaries pose increasingly severe threats to US electric systems. The grid also faces potentially catastrophic natural hazards, including wildfires, earthquakes, and severe weather events. Helping industry improve the grid's resilience against these threats and hazards constitutes a top priority for DOE and the US government.

Objectives and Scope: The Subcommittee makes recommendations to the full EAC, which advises DOE, with respect to matters related to:

- Strategies to anticipate and stay ahead of intensifying threats, including new approaches to risk management and threat mitigation.
- Effective approaches for engaging public and private sector partners needed to ensure successful outcomes;
- The application of subject matter and technical expertise to strengthen DOE plans and activities, including the development of resilience metrics and project assessment tools;
- Electric utility industry and other stakeholder practices, needs and constraints relevant to DOE initiatives and actions;
- Information, data and analyses available to further DOE progress or related gaps;
- Opportunities to leverage DOE authorities and capabilities for sustained impact;
- Specialized options to strengthen the resilience of Critical Electric Infrastructure (CEI) and Defense Critical Electric Infrastructure (DCEI) as defined by the Federal Power Act);
- Opportunities to develop holistic strategies to strengthen grid resilience against catastrophic threats and hazards, including initiatives to account for gas-electric interdependences and other cross-sector issues significant for the resilience of CEI and DCEI; and
- Other areas identified by the EAC as pertinent to DOE's objectives for increasing grid security and critical infrastructure resilience.