

## **Statement of FERC Chairman Joseph T. Kelliher on Congressional Passage of Energy Bill**

“I would like to commend Chairman Barton, Chairman Domenici, Senator Bingaman and Representative Dingell for their leadership in crafting this important legislation. This bill was nearly 10 years in the making, and it is due to their efforts and the hard work of their dedicated staff that this legislation will become law.

“The President called on Congress to pass energy legislation more than four years ago when he issued the National Energy Policy, and I want to applaud him for his leadership and persistence. This legislation largely embraces the ideas of the President's plan. I am proud to have played a role in development of the National Energy Policy as a Department of Energy official, and look forward to working on implementation of this important legislation at the Commission.

“This energy bill gives the Commission significant new responsibilities to oversee and enforce mandatory power grid reliability rules, to protect against market manipulation and the exercise of market power, to reform the hydropower licensing process and to strengthen our nation's energy infrastructure – particularly the interstate transmission grid and liquefied natural gas import facilities.

“We take on these new duties with a sense of purpose, mindful of the public trust they entail and dedicated to meeting these obligations within the time allotted by Congress.”

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