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# FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

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AUGUST 20, 2003

## Statement of Pat Wood, III Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission *U.S.-Canada Joint Task Force investigating the recent blackouts*

We look forward to continuing our close coordination with the Department of Energy and other reliability officials as part of the task force effort to piece together reams of available transmission data and determine exactly what contributed to the August 14 blackout. Such a thorough analysis does take time and I would like to echo the Energy Secretary's plea for patience as we undertake this task. The American and Canadian citizens affected by this event deserve to know all the facts.

FERC has numerous technical experts and other staff working on the blackout event and recovery, and we have committed these professionals to assist the Energy Department investigation. The Commission will make available whatever resources are required to support the investigation.

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*News media contact:  
Bryan Lee, 202-502-8680*