

OVERVIEW

Since its formation in 1976, ELCON has been the premier national association of industrial electricity consumers. ELCON is the only industrial trade association with technical electricity expertise, enabling unique and influential advocacy at FERC, NERC, DOE, EPA, and Capitol Hill. ELCON also serves as the major hub in the industrial electricity ecosystem by hosting regular roundtable discussions with state industrial groups and driving the industrial agenda across states and regions.

ELCON's 2021 priorities reflect our unique advantages, including engaging FERC and RTOs on market design and transmission policy issues. These priorities also leverage ELCON's role as the only trade association representing large end use customers (Sector 8) at NERC to advance economically sound reliability policy.

PRIORITIES

⚡ MARKET DESIGN

- Align market design with reliability needs to minimize costs and out-of-market reliability actions.
- Advance a blueprint for capacity market reforms in concert with regional industrial organizations.
- Explore opportunities to better integrate industrial resources, including demand response.

⚡ SELF-SUPPLY AND MARKET ACCESS

- Ensure any additional PURPA reform enhances competition and protects industrial assets.
- Collaborate with state industrial groups and DOE to reduce barriers to industrial self-supply.
- Collaborate with state allies to advance opportunities for industrial direct market access.

⚡ TRANSMISSION POLICY REFORM

- Advance the transmission consumer coalition to reduce inflated ROEs and incentives.
- Encourage FERC to continue applying economic scrutiny of transmission line ratings.
- Improve competitive procurement and reduce transmission builds exempt from cost scrutiny.
- Reduce barriers to low-cost transmission and non-wires alternatives, such as demand response.

⚡ TRANSPARENCY AND DATA

- Lead a multi-agency effort to critically examine the drivers of the cost of delivered power.
- Engage FERC, NARUC, DOE, and others to establish baseline components of the total cost of delivered power (over and above retail cost data already provided by EIA), including transmission costs, integration costs, externalities, and the consumer impacts of tax policies.
- Collaborate with FERC, RTO/ISOs, trade associations, and academic and think tank researchers to increase transparency and public availability of cost data.

⚡ RELIABILITY POLICY REFORM

- Subject NERC standards to cost-benefit analyses that reflect consumer preferences.
- Minimize the burden of critical infrastructure protection standards on large end use customers.
- Boost the quality of NERC analyses to promote "influence by information."
- Enhance reliability institutions' understanding of markets and state regulation, such that issues like fuel security and cold weather readiness are achieved through cost-conscious processes.

⚡ ELCON MEMBER BENEFITS ⚡

This advocacy agenda holds tens to hundreds of billions in total avoided cost potential. Companies regularly find six to seven figure savings tied to a single priority, plus intangible benefits like greater procurement flexibility. ELCON members also benefit from ELCON's education and information services, access to policymakers, legal intervention savings, networking and peer interactions, and ability to influence electricity policy across state and federal levels.