This Docket number is presently before Federal Energy Regulatory Commission: Joint Staff White Paper on Notices of Penalty Pertaining to Violations of Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards.

Comments on Transparency Submitted to FERC on 9/20/2019, mailed by USPS 09/21/2019.

My name is Mary Kass, a private citizen, residing in Gretna, Louisiana. I represent myself and my family. I am an advocate for smaller government and for transparency in government. My job and my family’s well-being depend heavily on a reliable and resilient electric grid. I work in payroll and my daily tasks require constant data processing and communications through the Internet, which depends completely upon the electric grid. It is obvious to me that the electric grid plays a vital role in enabling American workers to process and receive payroll. I can’t imagine electric power being suspended for any length of time because of an attack on the grid. I recognize that I would not be able to complete my job duties for 1000’s of working families. Because I recognize that America’s enemies have their sights set on our electric grid, this issue is concerning to me each day.

I was fortunate to come across the “White Paper” written by FERC and NERC. In today’s political landscape of cumbersome bureaucracy, I am thankful for these organizations stating that they desire more transparency on something so important to ALL AMERICANS - a secure and efficient power grid. The safety and security of all people depends on a secured power system and a secured power system depends on government and corporate leaders taking security seriously. I appreciate FERC and NERC inviting comments on the White Paper because I believe it is lacking enough information that is critical to security of the grid. There are some who are invested in studying and making recommendations to make our power grid efficient and secure. One such study, which I find comprehensive, is that which was submitted by Mr. Michael Mabee on September 3, 2019. Based on what I have read about Mr. Mabee, his work is for the public interest and not self-interest. His alternate proposal will enhance transparency and accountability much more than the currently proposed White Paper and will therefore enhance the security of the electric grid.

When there is light shone on something wrong, corporate leaders will feel the “pressing” need to work harder toward compliance. Since the grid upon which I depend for my job and for life itself is in the hands of corporate leaders, I want their company’s security infractions to face public scrutiny. In today’s globalized world, I feel a sense of urgency in getting the grid secure. I do believe there are people wanting to destroy our way of life in America and the grid is their prime target. This is a serious matter and I would like more security for something that touches all aspects of my life and the lives of all Americans.

Sincerely,

Mary Kass