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Outside Witness Testimony (OWT) of Michael Mabee before the  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies  
of Senate Committee on Appropriations  
The USGS Geomagnetism Program, U.S. Department of the Interior  
March 19, 2020

**Written Testimony of Michael Mabee on The USGS Geomagnetism Program,  
U.S. Department of the Interior**

Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Udall,

I am a private citizen from New Hampshire and an electric grid security researcher whose work has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post and other security and electric industry trade publications.<sup>1</sup> I also maintain the largest known publicly available database of federal government documents on the security of the electric grid.<sup>2</sup>

I write today to fully endorse the testimony of David Jonas Bardin submitted to your subcommittee on March 11, 2020 in this matter. I also fully endorse the testimony of the Secure the Grid Coalition submitted to your subcommittee on March 16, 2020.

In addition, I would like to point out that the information and data developed by the USGS Geomagnetism Program is critical to the security of our 16 critical infrastructures for another reason: It is the most reliable and unbiased scientific data available.

The United States needs the unbiased, scientific data from the USGS Geomagnetism Program to help ensure that Congress, regulators and decision makers have reliable information to assess the natural and man-made threats to the critical infrastructures. Information that comes from parties that benefit financially by understating the threats cannot stand alone in our decision making on matters of national security.

The USGS Geomagnetism Program provides this critical and reliable information. It is imperative to our national security that Congress continue to provide ample support to the USGS Geomagnetism Program to continue their important work.

I appreciate your subcommittee's past attention to appropriating funds to this important program as I believe it is critical to the national security of the United States.



Michael Mabee

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<sup>1</sup> See: <https://michaelmabee.info/michael-mabee-in-the-press/> (accessed March 19, 2020).

<sup>2</sup> See: <https://michaelmabee.info/government-documents-emp-and-grid-security/> (accessed March 19, 2020).