



**Secure the Grid Coalition**  
 A Project of the Center for Security Policy  
 2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 189  
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Science, Technology, and Energy Committee  
 New Hampshire House of Representatives  
 1 Granite Place, Concord, NH 03301

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**Comments of Secure the Grid Coalition on HB 1723**

Dear Chairman Vose, Vice Chairman Thomas, and esteemed members:

Our Secure the Grid Coalition urges your state to act aggressively to protect your electric grid against threats which produce Geomagnetically Induced Currents (GIC) - regularly occurring solar storms and High-Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse (HEMP) attack.

HB 1723 enables the state to survey its grid infrastructure, particularly transformers for susceptibility to damage by GIC using realistic threat data. Transformers are a critical part of the grid and their production lead times – depending on size – can be up to 4-6 years (in “blue sky” conditions).

This means if you lost transformers to GIC today, it might take until 2030-2032 to receive replacements:



NERC’s GIC protection standard requires your state’s utilities to assess the GIC threat at a standard of approximately 2.4 V/km – **ten times lower than the GIC levels experienced during previous solar storms** and 35 times less than the GIC protection recommended in the updated IEC HEMP standard.

Our recommendations have been voiced previously to DOE in August 2020, and to the Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm in January 2022, June 2022 and April 2024 and to the current Department of Energy staff in July 2025 and again in Nov 2025. However, the federal government has not acted.

The Good News: This is a fixable problem, and NH doesn’t need to wait on the federal govt. Proven, tested, and affordable GIC protection technology exists, known as SolidGround®. Other nations are installing this technology, including China.

HB1723 has no fiscal requirement and merely compels your utilities to survey their system to determine which transformers most need protection and to provide recommendations on how best to fund this protection – necessary first steps in solving the GIC problem.

Note: it is CRITICAL that the survey results are treated with the utmost operational security and that this information be considered Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII) and be protected in accordance with CEII protocols.

