



Committee: House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Energy

Event: [Cybersecurity Bill Mark-Up](#)

Date: February 4, 2026

Executive Summary:

On February 4, 2026, the House Energy & Commerce Energy Subcommittee hosted a markup of the following cybersecurity bills of interest: the Rural and Municipal Utility Cybersecurity (RMUC) Act ([H.R. 7266](#)), the Securing Community Upgrades for a Resilient Grid (SECURE Grid) Act ([H.R. 7257](#)), and the Energy Threat Analysis Center Act (ETAC) of 2026 ([H.R. 7305](#)). The Subcommittee also marked up the Pipeline Cybersecurity Preparedness Act ([H.R. 7272](#)) and Energy Emergency Leadership Act ([H.R. 7258](#)). Notably, the three bills of interest all passed by voice vote without debate. All five bills progressed to the Full Committee.

Member Toplines:

[Chair Bob Latta \(R-OH-05\)](#): Latta provided an overview of the bills and underscored that China remains the most active and persistent threat to American critical infrastructure networks. He emphasized the need for intelligence sharing, threat transparency, and adequate resources, particularly for rural and small utility service territories.

*[Ranking Member Kathy Castor \(D-FL-14\)](#)*¹: Castor emphasized that President **Donald Trump's** policies threaten grid reliability and security, citing arbitrary project cancellations and mounting costs. She reported that aging grid and transmission bottlenecks are obstacles to affordable and reliable energy. She attested to the importance of well-planned, long-distance, high-capacity transmission. Castor stressed the need for a diverse energy mix, including solar plus and wind, increased energy efficiency, grid enhancing technologies, and demand flexibility. She reported that China now has 44 percent of the world's operating utility scale solar and wind – more than the EU, U.S., and India combined – and leads in solar module and wind turbine manufacturing. She underscored that the U.S. should not be left behind.

[Full Committee Chair Brett Guthrie \(R-KY-02\)](#): Guthrie attested to the bills' bipartisan support and their importance in protecting energy infrastructure.

[Full Committee Ranking Member Frank Pallone \(D-NJ-06\)](#): Pallone stated that the energy system is under threat from increased electricity demand, stemming from extreme weather and cyber threats. He underscored the need for cybersecurity and general energy security, expressing concern at Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary **Chris Wright's** cancellation of over two billion dollars of investments. He reported that Congress is reauthorizing the RMUC funding, which was held up by DOE.

¹ Ranking Member Castor, Full Committee Chair Guthrie, Full Committee Ranking Member Pallone's opening statements were not available online at the time of this memo's composition.

Legislation of Interest Considered:

- I. [H.R. 7305](#), ETAC Act of 2026
 - A. Ranking Member Castor and Rep. **Gabe Evans** (R-CO-04) both spoke to their bill, explaining that it formally authorizes ETAC, empowering DOE to use public-private partnerships to analyze threats to the energy sector. Evans noted that Colorado's National Laboratory of the Rockies hosts ETAC and conducts preventative research and threat assessments. He underscored the need for ETAC to support small towns and rural areas, which lack the resources and infrastructure to otherwise combat cyber attacks on their energy infrastructure.
 - B. The bill was adopted by a voice vote and forwarded to the full committee.

- II. [H.R. 7266](#), RMUC Act
 - A. Rep. **Mariannette Miller-Meeks** (R-IA-02) reported that her bill ensures that rural electric cooperatives and small utilities have access to the advanced cybersecurity tools, technical assistance, and grant funding necessary to defend against and recover from cyber threats. She explained that the legislation reauthorizes the RMUC program.
 - B. Rep. **Jennifer McClellan** (D-VA-04) spoke as the other co-sponsor of the bill, reiterating that the legislation provides these utilities with critical support. She added that the text strengthens the program by increasing DOE funding flexibility to improve small utilities and cooperatives' access. She flagged that the Trump administration illegally held \$80 million under the RMUC program until this Subcommittee's January hearing and emphasized that these arbitrary actions harm American families and lead to increased energy costs.
 - C. Miller-Meeks introduced amendment two, which shifts the start of the five year reauthorization period from 2026 to 2027.
 1. The amendment is agreed to by voice vote.
 - D. The bill was adopted by a voice vote and forwarded to the full committee.

- III. [H.R. 7257](#), SECURE Grid Act
 - A. Chair Latta and Rep. **Doris Matsui** (D-CA-07) spoke as cosponsors in favor of their bill.
 1. Latta emphasized that the legislation improves the state energy security planning process by ensuring that states consider the security and resilience of local distribution systems and incorporate grid component manufacturer and supplier expertise. He added that the bill incorporates language to ensure that governors remain responsible for the approval of their own state energy security plans.
 2. Matsui emphasized that the electric grid faces growing threats, from climate change-induced extreme weather to cyber and physical attacks. She explained that the bill requires states to develop and maintain energy security plans, which help states collaborate with DOE and national labs to identify and respond to threats accordingly.
 - B. The bill was adopted by a voice vote and forwarded to the full committee.