

By: Senator E. Williams  
By: Representative Beck

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**  
SUPPORTING THE DEPLOYMENT OF ADVANCED, INNOVATIVE  
ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION TECHNOLOGY.

**Subtitle**

SUPPORTING THE DEPLOYMENT OF ADVANCED,  
INNOVATIVE ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION  
TECHNOLOGY.

WHEREAS, a secure, reliable, and resilient power grid integrating generation resources in Arkansas serves as a foundation of a growing economy and is critical to the state's energy security; and

WHEREAS, regulators, policy-makers, and consumers expect generating resources and the grid to perform extremely reliably in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of the state's transmission facilities are aged and will require a replacement strategy; and

WHEREAS, environmental regulations, state and federal tax policies, other economic factors, and technology developments are causing some electric generation resources to retire, while replacement generation, some of it fueled by intermittent resources, is being sited at other locations on the electric grid; and

WHEREAS, new, innovative and cost-effective transmission technologies, including without limitation high-capacity/high-efficiency conductors, and compact transmission towers, that are commercially available may increase



grid capacity, improve energy transfers, promote greater stability and resiliency, make more efficient use of rights-of-way, reduce transmission line losses, and help to streamline siting and construction activities; and

WHEREAS, new and advanced replacement transmission facilities may be designed to enable a wide variety of new generating resources and may address technical, environmental, and aesthetic issues that might impede or limit the development and operation of these resources; and

WHEREAS, crowded utility corridors often allow little room for expansion; and

WHEREAS, some states have established policies that encourage the use of advanced transmission line technologies; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Interim Committee on Energy by its Interim Resolution 2015-004, and the policies of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the Council of State Governments Southern Legislative Conference representing fifteen (15) states, and the Southern States Energy Board representing sixteen (16) states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands recognize the benefits of these technologies to modernize the grid and to improve generating resource integration and encourage electric utilities, grid operators, and state public service commissions to consider the cost-effective use of these technologies,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Ninety-First General Assembly encourages the Arkansas Public Service Commission to support utility efforts to:

- (1) Investigate and consider cost-effective new and advanced transmission technologies when replacing aged transmission infrastructure;
- (2) Evaluate new transmission technologies to determine whether they can cost-effectively ensure the continued reliable delivery of

electricity while providing greater capacity and enhanced efficiency;

(3) Consider the ability of these technologies to cost-effectively reduce environmental and visual impacts to communities; and

(4) Consider the ability of these and other technologies to cost-effectively reduce the overall cost of energy delivery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ninety-First General Assembly encourages the Arkansas Public Service Commission to work with regional transmission organizations and other planning authorities as needed to support and encourage consideration of those cost-effective advanced electric transmission infrastructure options that can increase grid capacity, reduce transmission line losses, improve energy transfers, make efficient use of rights-of-way, improve energy efficiency, and help to streamline siting and construction activities in their planning, evaluation, and oversight of transmission grid development, especially by utilizing existing transmission corridors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ninety-First General Assembly encourages the Arkansas Public Service Commission to include in the commission's oversight of transmission facilities consideration of the cost-effective and appropriate use of advanced electric transmission technologies in support of the commission's interest in the continued provision of affordable, reliable electricity to consumers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and applicable state and regional regulators, including without limitation public service commissioners, energy department directors, and regional transmission operators.