

# WASHINGTON UPDATE 2024 NEPPA ANNUAL CONFERENCE MeguireWhitney

### **OVERVIEW**

- Review of 118<sup>th</sup> Congress
- Federal Regulatory Actions
- November Elections
- Preview of 119<sup>th</sup>
   Congress



## **REVIEW OF THE 118TH CONGRESS**



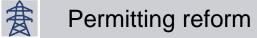
### **First Session**

- Rocky start with multiple Speaker battles
- Debt limit deal
- Narrow margins only allow for must-pass legislation

### Second Session

- Presidential elections loom
- Race to finish regulations
- CRA resolutions

### **118<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS: ENERGY POLICY**



FERC Commissioners

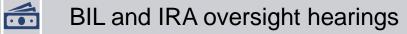


**††††** 

Nuclear energy law



CRA resolutions overturning Administration energy and climate policies





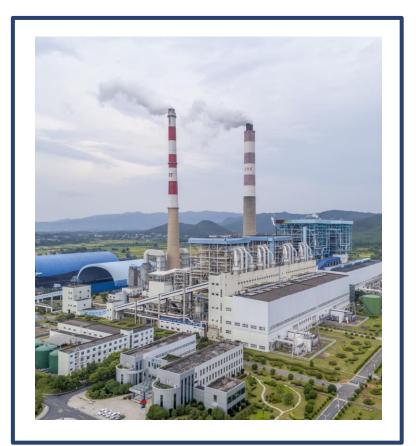


### **DOE TRANSFORMER RULE**



- DOE published final distribution energy efficiency standards April 4
- Final rule walks back several aspects of the proposed rule: Only about 25 percent of transformers on the market will need to use amorphous steel cores
- For short-term challenges, DPA funding is still needed to address domestic manufacturing

### **EPA POWER PLANT RULE**



- EPA released a series of GHG rules on Apr. 25
- Requires existing coal-fired power plants and new natural gas plants to adopt carbon capture technology by 2032 to reduce emissions by 90 percent – those that do not adopt the technology (or find a comparable means of reduction) must retire by 2039
- Removed existing natural gas plant to a separate docket
- CRA resolution introduced in both House and Senate to overturn the rule

## **BIL AND IRA IMPLEMENTATION**



"Hurry-Up and Wait" approach to grant applications



Grant programs oversubscribed



Congressional oversight hearings



Future of grants/process depends on elections



### **IRA ENERGY TAX CREDIT GUIDANCE**

Busy year for Treasury and IRS!

- Pre-filing registration portal opened
- Final Elective Pay Guidance
- Final Apprenticeship and Prevailing Wage requirements Guidance
- Proposed Guidance published for claiming techneutral credits starting in 2025
- Still waiting: Guidance on domestic content requirements for elective pay tax credits



Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

### CISA CYBERSECURITY CIRCIA NPRM



- CISA is developing rules to implement mandatory cyber incident and ransomware reporting requirements
- CIRCIA requires cyber incidents to be reported within 72 hours and ransomware payments within 24 hours
- Final rules expected in Fall 2025

#### FERC TRANSMISSION PLANNING AND COST ALLOCATION

- On May 13, FERC voted 2-1 to adopt Order 1920, finalizing its long-awaited transmission planning and cost allocation rule
- Does not include provisions giving investor-owned and public power utilities the right of first refusal (ROFR) for jointly owned transmission projects
- Order 1920 is expected to face legal challenges, and has already seen mixed reactions from lawmakers, power providers, and clean energy advocates



### FERC: NEW COMMISSIONERS



In June, the Senate confirmed President Biden's three nominees:

- David Rosner: term runs through June 30, 2027
- Lindsay See: term runs through June 30, 2028
- Judy Chang: term runs through June 30, 2029

FERC now has a complete Commission with Chair Willie Phillips leading the Commission with a 3-2 split favoring Democrats



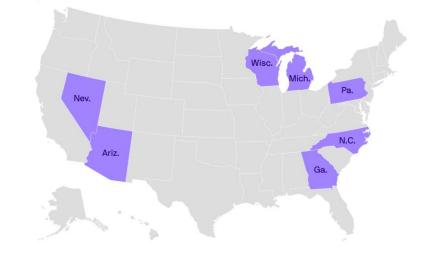
# NOVEMBER ELECTIONS



### 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Harris (D) vs. Trump (R) presidential election
Race will be close and will depend on 7 swing states

Swing states that are expected to decide the 2024 presidential election





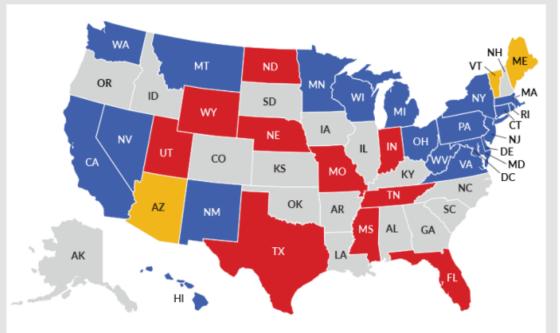
### **2024 ELECTIONS: CONGRESSIONAL RACES**

- All 435 House seats and 34 of 100 Senate seats are up for election
  - King, Murphy, Warren, Whitehouse, Sanders
  - At least 45 House members and 7 Senators are not seeking reelection
  - Senate map favors GOP

Currently...

- The House has a 220-212 Republican majority
- The Senate has a 51-49 Democratic majority

#### U.S. Senate: 34 of 100 seats



States with a seat up for election are color-coded based on the current incumbent. States that are gray have no seat up for election.

📕 Republican 📃 Democrat 📒 Independent

### LOOKING AHEAD: LAME DUCK SESSION



- Must pass legislation: FY25
   Spending & NDAA
- Farm Bill?
- Broader Permitting reform deal?
- Tax Extenders?

### WHAT TO EXPECT: 119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS

- Change in party= reorganization of federal government
- Divided government?
- Energy policy: permitting reform, transmission, growing energy demand from AI
- 2025 tax package



### **QUESTIONS?**

1466

#### TEAM@MEGUIREWHITNEY.COM

Joy Grewatz Principal | Joy@meguirewhitney.com

