

NGSA NEWS

For Immediate Release December 18, 2018

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NERC Scenarios Too Extreme to Provide Guidance, Says NGSA

(Washington, D.C.) - A North American Electric Reliability Corp. (NERC) [report](#) assessing the impact on the power grid if coal and nuclear retirements were exponentially accelerated relies on too many extremes to be enlightening about real-world grid reliability, the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) said today.

Pat Jagtiani, executive vice president of NGSA, said, "We agree that understanding the impact of generator retirements is important. We also appreciate NERC's recommendation that regulators consider ways to expedite the construction of new natural gas pipeline and storage capacity."

Jagtiani said, "Unfortunately, the retirement scenarios incorporated in NERC's assessment are too extreme to offer useful takeaways about reliability. Certainly, there is nothing here that warrants or supports the use of out-of-market actions."

Jagtiani said, "NERC has compressed EIA's projections to occur three years earlier than predicted, while new generation's potential contribution is minimized. We're further concerned that in the Polar Vortex scenario, there is no recognition of recent market mechanisms that have been adopted and which have already proven to increase generator performance during extreme weather stresses on the grid."

"Despite our concerns with the report, we appreciate that NERC openly acknowledges that the scenario is not probable, but instead 'unlikely' and not 'predictive,'" Jagtiani said.

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The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) represents integrated and independent companies that supply natural gas. For more information, please visit www.ngsa.org and www.naturalgas.org.

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