

Statement of Rich Glick  
Nominee for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
September 7, 2017

Chairman Murkowski, Ranking Member Cantwell, and Members of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to appear this morning as a nominee to serve on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

I want to thank both Senator Cantwell and Senator Schumer for the confidence they have shown in me by putting my name forward for this position. I especially am grateful to Senator Cantwell for giving me the opportunity to come back to work in the U.S. Senate, where I spent six-and-a-half years in the 1990's. Although the faces and some of the issues have changed, the Senate, particularly the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, remains a special place. It has been a privilege to work for the Committee and Senator Cantwell over the last 18 months and with this Committee's extremely professional staff on both sides of the aisle. I also want to thank Chairman Murkowski for working tirelessly to expedite this nomination process.

And I would be remiss if I failed to mention Senator Dale Bumpers, who served as a senior member of this Committee and then the Ranking Democrat when I worked for him in the 1990's. I owe so much to Senator Bumpers for taking a chance on me and for serving as a mentor on politics and life, but especially for instilling in his staff the notion that public service is a noble calling.

I also want to recognize my wife Erin and our son Alexander, who have joined me here today. They both are a constant reminder of what is really important in life.

I have had the opportunity to work on a number of major energy issues over my career. As a young lawyer at a Washington, D.C. law firm I helped to represent public power utilities and utility regulators. As a Legislative Director and Chief Counsel for Senator Bumpers I worked on several provisions included in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and helped to draft bipartisan legislation addressing electric industry restructuring. As a Senior Policy Advisor to Energy Secretary Bill Richardson I worked on the Clinton Administration's response to what at the time was known as the "western energy crisis". Thereafter I worked for a multistate electric utility in the West with a significant amount of baseload electric generation -- PacifiCorp. I then went to work for what is now known as Avangrid -- an energy holding company that is one of the biggest renewable electricity generators in the U.S. and operates several gas and electric distribution companies. And, most recently, I have had the honor of serving as a General Counsel for the Minority on this Committee where I have worked on several energy policy issues, including the bipartisan energy bill currently pending on the Senate calendar. On each occasion I have witnessed the important roles that FERC plays.

FERC's decisions can have a significant impact on the lives of everyday Americans. For instance, the Commission's inability to come together on a unified response during the height of the western energy crisis in 2000 caused consumers to pay more for electricity and natural gas than they should have. If I am so fortunate to be confirmed by the Senate to serve as a FERC Commissioner, I intend to work with my colleagues to safeguard the public's interests.

I also look forward, if confirmed, to working with my fellow commissioners to help facilitate the ongoing dramatic transformation to the ways Americans produce and consume energy. This revolution has the potential to substantially improve our energy efficiency, reduce emissions, grow the economy and create millions of new jobs. FERC, working with state regulators, can help eliminate barriers to the adoption of these new technologies and processes.

Senator Cantwell and Chairman Murkowski, thank you again for the opportunity to appear before the Committee today. I look forward to answering your questions and the questions of your colleagues.