



July 25, 2025

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

On behalf of the Large Public Power Council (LPPC), I write to express strong support for H.R. 4669, the *Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act of 2025*. This bipartisan legislation represents a vital step toward improving federal disaster response and recovery programs. We appreciate your leadership in advancing thoughtful reforms that reflect the experiences and recommendations of emergency management stakeholders across the country.

LPPC represents America's 29 largest public power systems. Collectively, our members own 80,000 megawatts of generation and 40,000 miles of transmission across 23 states and U.S. territories—representing over 80

percent of public power's assets nationwide and serving more than 30 million Americans. As not-for-profit electric utilities owned by state and local governments, LPPC members serve as critical lifelines to the communities we power. When disasters strike, our members are among the first on the ground, working tirelessly to restore electric service, repair infrastructure, and support public health and safety.

Restoring electric service is foundational to a community's recovery and return to normal life. Everyone depends on electricity—residents, businesses, hospitals, supermarkets, water systems, gas stations, and other essential services. To greatly accelerate restoration and reduce overall recovery costs, we encourage support for the pre-staging of utility equipment and personnel in advance of federally declared major storms. Equally important, investments in hardening the electric grid can reduce the severity of outages and prevent damage during future disasters.

While federal programs established under the Stafford Act have been instrumental in the long-term recovery of communities affected by disasters, LPPC members face persistent challenges in seeking cost recovery and executing hazard mitigation projects in a timely and efficient manner. For these programs to be effective, FEMA must support practical implementation approaches—such as allowing damaged facilities to be rebuilt to modern, cost-effective standards, and permitting the use of goods and services already procured under state and local procurement rules consistent with established standards for transparency and public accountability, thereby saving both significant time and money as compared to re-procuring hundreds of items for FEMA projects.

H.R. 4669 includes meaningful reforms to streamline federal recovery programs, reduce administrative inefficiencies, and empower state and local entities to rebuild communities more effectively. LPPC supports these reforms

and looks forward to continuing to work with the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to ensure the legislation enables the timely, cost-effective recovery of essential services and encourages the resiliency of American communities.

Thank you again for your leadership and commitment to strengthening our nation's emergency management system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Tom Falcone'.

Tom Falcone
President