



For Immediate Release
June 1, 2018

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Large Industrial Electricity Consumers Oppose DOE Subsidy to Coal and Nuclear

Washington, D.C. -- John P. Hughes, CEO and President of the Electricity Consumers Resource Council, had the following comments about the Department of Energy's action today to subsidize uneconomic coal and nuclear plants.

"Fuel security and resilience are phony issues."

"The cost consequences of this planned DOE action will devastate U.S. manufacturing."

"The federal government should not use the pretext of 'national security' to pick winners and losers in the energy markets and it must certainly not treat U.S. manufacturing jobs as inferior to the jobs at uneconomic power plants."

"There is not any demonstrated need that would warrant destroying the competitive wholesale electricity markets or imposing unnecessary costs on consumers—large or small."

"Proposals that benefit a select few companies at the cost of consumers and the market's ability to operate effectively are taxpayer bailouts that will cost billions."

Established in 1976, ELCON is the national association of large industrial users of electricity from virtually every manufacturing sector. More information about ELCON can found at www.elcon.org.