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EPSA Statement on NEI's Wall Street Remarks Today

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Electric Power Supply Association (EPSA), the national trade association for independent power producers and marketers, issued the following statement in response to a presentation by the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) at its annual Wall Street briefing held in New York City this morning:

“EPSA was encouraged at the start of NEI's presentation because of its emphasis on action by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on energy price formation and other wholesale market-wide reforms. EPSA has partnered with NEI and other trade groups on those issues for years. During our joint efforts, NEI joined with the rest of us in stating that the power grid relies on base load, mid-merit and peaking units using a variety of fuels.

By contrast, when outlining its current policy agenda, NEI focused on select States instituting subsidies only for nuclear units because they are base load, even without regard to financial need, at the expense of the other 80 percent of fuel sources that also help keep the lights on for customers.

That is deeply unfortunate for many reasons. Jeopardizing the rest of the power market in the name of a level playing field through proposals that would in fact further tilt the playing field helps no one, not even nuclear units. As the aftermath in New York and Illinois amply shows, adoption of single-fuel remedies to market-wide challenges only results in lengthy litigation, sustained uncertainty and considerable controversy. Expanding single fuel approaches to other States, as NEI advocated today, will stoke those controversies exponentially.

EPSA members are pursuing the all-of-the-above strategy supported by the new Administration and bipartisan voices in Congress. Rather than undermining other fuel sources, all of us across the power sector and our fuel supply chains should focus on our mutual interest in comprehensive wholesale market reforms. All the consumers we serve together deserve and expect no less.”

-EPSA-

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2017, EPSA is the national trade association representing leading independent power producers and marketers. EPSA members provide reliable and competitively priced electricity from environmentally responsible facilities using a diverse mix of fuels and technologies. Power supplied on a competitive basis collectively accounts for 40 percent of the U.S. installed generating capacity. EPSA seeks to bring the benefits of competition to all power customers.