

Top 5 Tips for Powerful Comments

Public comments are essential to creating effective rules and regulations at FERC. Consider the following tips and techniques for creating thorough and convincing comments.

Organize Yourself

1 Prepare by reviewing the filing and gathering any background materials. Identify comment period deadlines and file on time. Ensure comments reference the correct docket number.

Get to Your Point

2 State your objective and your motivation for commenting up front.

Support Your Points

3 Present a concise and thorough argument, and include factual information and data, if available. Offer justifications to support your comments.

Be Specific About Impacts

4 Provide specific examples of how you would be impacted negatively or positively. Include scientific data, charts, graphs, or maps that support these impacts. When recommending an alternative course of action, be specific about the alternative.

Understand FERC's Role

5 Knowing FERC's role in energy regulation will help you support your claims. As such, connect your comments to issues, factors, or impacts that are within FERC's authority. Stay within the "scope" of the proceeding and focus on issues that FERC regulates.

Where can I find more information?

The Office of Public Participation is committed to facilitating engagement at FERC and can answer questions you may have.

✉ OPP@ferc.gov ☎ 202-502-6595

Less Effective

More Effective

Identifying Violations in Law or Regulations

The old mill at the end of our street has a rich history and may contain artifacts.

As required by the National Historic Preservation Act, FERC must take steps to identify and protect historic properties. The old mill at the end of our street has a rich history and may contain artifacts. At minimum, a historical survey should assess the mill's historic values and identify mitigation measures.

Using Examples

The company underestimates the economic benefits of waste minimization.

The company underestimates the economic benefits of waste minimization. As the attached article shows, similar companies have already recouped the costs from implementing waste reduction programs.

Highlighting Specific Concerns

The utility's proposal is overly-simplistic and we disagree with it as the utility should have proposed something more targeted. Also, the utility was dismissive of evident facts on the ground in submitting this proposal.....

The method that the utility proposes to model power flows does not reflect the fact that the utility's system is highly interconnected with neighboring systems, which is not consistent with Commission regulations.

