



PRESS RELEASE

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FOURTEEN TRADE ASSOCIATIONS OPPOSE H.R 4476, THE PURPA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2017

WASHINGTON, DC – A large group of trade associations representing diverse industries across the U.S., including the Industrial Energy Consumers of America’s (IECA) sent a [letter](#) of opposition today to Congressman Tim Walberg on H.R. 4476, the “PURPA Modernization Act of 2017.”

The Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) encourages increased energy efficiency by making use of cogeneration technology, otherwise known as combined heat and power (CHP) and waste heat to power (WHP). For manufacturing companies, PURPA is as important today as it was in 1978. Importantly, industrial PURPA QFs are not in the business of generating and selling power.

H.R. 4476 would negatively affect industrial qualifying facilities (QFs) that are certified as “small power producers.” Industrials do have self-generation facilities that use waste heat, biomass, wind, solar, and hydropower to produce electricity, and are certified as “small power producers.” The legislation would also be problematic for manufacturing companies to install wind or solar projects inside-their-fence line to reduce electric costs, GHG emissions, and to achieve corporate sustainability goals.

Industrial PURPA QFs are not causing the specific market problems that have prompted the legislation. Instead, industrial QFs contribute to grid stability, produce power at energy efficiency rates that are more than twice that of utility generation, reduce substantial amounts of GHG and criteria air pollutants, and are critical to the competitiveness of many industrial facilities and high-paying manufacturing jobs.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.0 trillion in annual sales, over 3,400 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.7 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, building products, automotive, brewing, independent oil refining, and cement.