



# Smart grid electrical engineering

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America's economy, national security and even the health and safety of our citizens depend on the reliable delivery of electricity. The U.S. electric grid is an engineering marvel with more than 9,200 electric generating units having more than 1 million megawatts of generating capacity connected to more than 600,000 miles of transmission lines.

The electric grid is more than just generation and transmission infrastructure. It is an ecosystem of asset owners, manufacturers, service providers, and government officials at Federal, state, and local levels, all working together to run one of the most reliable electrical grids in the world. The Office of Electricity(OE) is working with its public and private partners to strengthen, transform, and improve energy infrastructure to ensure access to reliable, secure, and clean sources of energy.

This exciting transformation of the nation's electric grid creates both challenges and opportunities to advance the capabilities of today's electricity delivery system. A critical component of grid modernization is a coordinated, strategic research, development and demonstration (RD& D) effort that involves both the public and private sectors.

**OE's Role in Grid Modernization** Since its inception, OE has catalyzed investment in electric and energy infrastructure. Over the years, OE has continued investing in the research, development, and demonstration of advanced technologies while also developing new modeling and analytics capabilities that can evolve as technology and policy needs mature.

**Legislative Mandates** In December 2007, Congress passed, and the President approved, Title XIII of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA). EISA provided the legislative support for DOE's smart grid activities and reinforced its role in leading and coordinating national grid modernization efforts. EISA Section 1303 established at DOE the Smart Grid Advisory Committee and Federal Smart Grid Task Force.

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