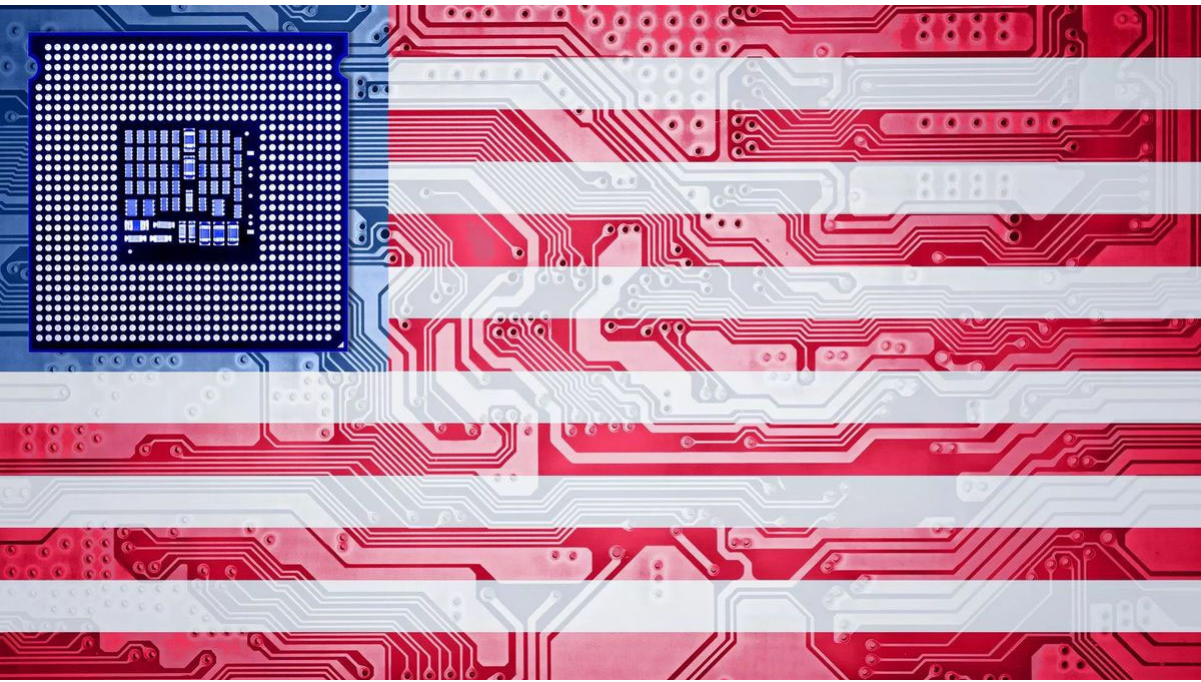


GR Jolt

By Spencer Pederson • Jul 24, 2022
Smart Brevity® count: 2 mins... 576 words

It was another busy week for NEMA's GR team—catch up quick with this week's GR Jolt.

1 big thing: CHIPS+



Legislative activity in the Senate this week focused on making progress on negotiating the CHIPS for America Act – a pared-down version of the United States Innovation and Competition Act (USICA). The bill, now referred to as “CHIPS Plus” includes \$52 billion to support the domestic semiconductor industry. Senators are still adding portions of USICA back into the bill.

- Other NEMA priorities could be added such as the Capacity Building Pilot Program that would allocate grants to private sector entities and others to incentivize increased U.S. participation in international standard development.

What's next: Senators will likely vote on final passage of the CHIPS bill Tuesday or Wednesday next week, sending the legislation to the House where consideration is likely before the August recess.

- **NEMA** is tracking the legislation closely and is in contact with key offices negotiating the bill.

DOE motor rules



This week the Department of Energy (DOE) issued a [pre-publication](#) Federal Register notice final rule pertaining to test procedures for electric motors. NEMA submitted comments on the rule and has been conducting multiple avenues of advocacy on this and another DOE motor rule.

Why it matters: After initial review, it appears the DOE accepted many of NEMA's comments, resulting in a final rule that is significantly improved from the proposed rule.

The final rule was issued on the same week that the Appliance Standards and Rulemaking Federal Advisory Committee (ASRAC) met at NEMA's [request](#) to discuss our recent petition for a negotiated rulemaking process for the motor rules.

What's next: The ASRAC granted NEMA's request for a 30-day extension to refine the scope of our petition, conduct additional outreach, and propose a timeline for completion of a negotiated rulemaking for the remaining rule focusing on electric motor standards.

DOE grid resiliency meeting



This week, NEMA met with the Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss the recently announced \$2.3 billion formula grant program designed to strengthen and modernize America's power grid.

Why it matters: The DOE recently opened the application period for States, Tribal nations, and territories to apply for the funding but questions remain regarding the application of Build America, Buy America provisions in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for these programs.

What's next: NEMA is working on a follow-up letter to the agency to obtain more clarity on the program and how it will be executed.

Maine chemical comments

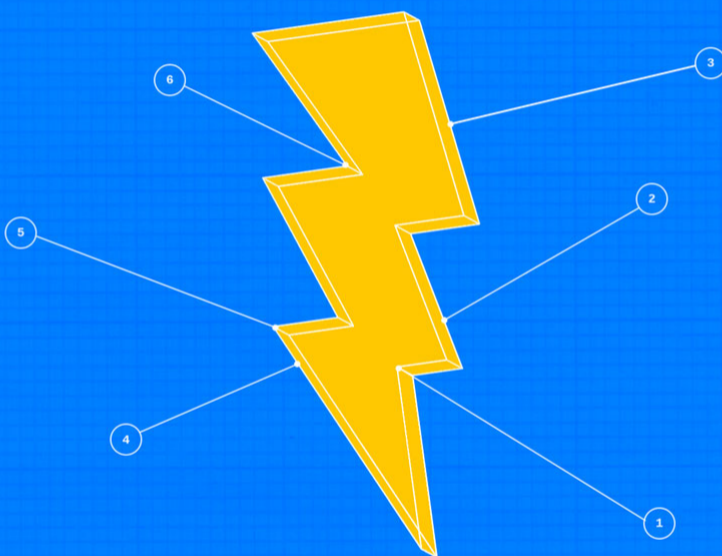


This week, NEMA signed and delivered comments to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in advance of Maine's proposed rule implementing certain notification requirements and sales prohibitions for products containing intentionally added PFAS.

Why it matters: DEP is preparing regulations that will impose the state's 2021 legislation requiring reporting on intentionally added PFAS content in products which must be effective January 1, 2023. The same statute also prohibits PFAS present in certain rugs and other textiles at that time, and in all products by 2030.

Go deeper: Read the NEMA signed, Chemical Users Coalition comments [here](#).

What we're watching



The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) reported that the demand for electricity briefly topped 80,000 megawatts for the first time ever.

- ERCOT stated that electricity usage did not remain above 80,000 megawatts long enough to consider it to be an "official record," but ERCOT's on-line grid tracker showed demand during the peak hours of the afternoon remained above 79,900 MW for some time.

Have a great rest of the weekend and I hope everyone is finding ways to beat the heat!

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