



**International Right of Way Association Weekly Update**

**Monday, November 18, 2019**

The White House

- On Tuesday, the U.S. Department of Transportation published the list of 2019 BUILD award grantees, awarding 55 projects in 35 states a total of nearly \$900 million.  
<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/subdoc/901/build-fact-sheet2019-final.pdf>

Congress

- Both Chambers are in session this week.

Analysis

- Readers may be following the issues surrounding PG&E in California including liability for wildfires and blackouts imposed by the company in an effort to prevent wildfires. The issues relating to future control of the company may have ripple effects for utilities across the country, as other utilities adapt to the changing ways people consume electricity. The bottom line is that there are no perfect solutions, and filing bankruptcy, undergoing a change in ownership, divesting assets to municipal governments, or changing to a customer-ownership model all come with significant pros and cons.  
<https://www.chicagotribune.com/sns-what-the-battle-over-control-of-pgande-means-for-us-utility-customers-126992-20191115-story.html>