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From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
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Subject: Sources: White House sends Democratic FERC nomination to Senate

By Darius Dixon

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The White House today sent the much-awaited paperwork of Democratic FERC nominee Rich Glick to the Senate, according to multiple Senate aides, opening up the chance that the agency's quorum may be restored before the upper chamber goes on recess.

FERC has been without a leadership quorum since early February, leaving it unable to decide on major interstate natural gas pipelines, liquefied natural gas export terminals, anti-market manipulation cases or contested electric rate plans.

GOP picks Neil Chatterjee and Rob Powelson were approved by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in June, but they have been stalled since as Democrats used procedural tactics to slow-walk confirmations for most Trump nominees amid GOP efforts to repeal Obamacare.

After the latest effort to repeal the health care law fizzled last week, Senate Minority Leader [Chuck Schumer](#) said that "a whole lot" of nominees may get floor time. The Senate plans to leave for recess no later than next week, and negotiations are ongoing over a package of nominees that may be confirmed before then.

FERC nominees typically get confirmed in bipartisan pairs, and the absence of Glick's nomination has been a sticking point for Democrats looking for insurance that he gets on the commission in addition to three open Republican seats.

There is not enough time to get Glick through committee before recess. But the paperwork for President Donald Trump's pick for FERC chairman, Kevin McIntyre, has not yet been sent to the Senate, so the two could be confirmed in tandem when the Senate returns in September.

WHAT'S NEXT: With Glick's nomination paperwork in the Senate, it's possible Chatterjee and Powelson get approved on the Senate floor with a voice vote or by unanimous consent, however the timing is unclear and negotiations over nominees is still delicate.

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