



March 9, 2023

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
US House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Raul Grijalva
Ranking Member
US House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Grijalva:

On behalf of the American Exploration & Production Council (AXPC), I write to urge support for H.R. 1335, the "TAPP American Resources Act."

AXPC is a national trade association representing 33 leading independent oil and natural gas exploration and production companies in the United States. AXPC companies are among leaders across the world in the cleanest and safest onshore production of oil and natural gas, while supporting millions of Americans in good-paying jobs and investing a wealth of resources in our communities. Dedicated to safety, science, and technological advancement, our members strive to deliver affordable, reliable energy while positively impacting the economy and the communities in which we live and operate. As part of this mission, AXPC members understand the importance of ensuring positive environmental and public welfare outcomes and responsible stewardship of the nation's natural resources.

The TAPP American Resources Act will protect environmental reviews and public participation in the review process while modernizing and enhancing coordination between federal and state entities in the environmental review of infrastructure projects. It will also spur investment in critical infrastructure, create American jobs, and help protect our nation's energy security.

The TAPP American Resources Act's reform to the National Environmental Policy Act will provide more certainty to encourage investment in critical infrastructure to meet the energy needs of all Americans and enhance our energy security. We support the TAPP American Resources Act as it will provide much-needed modernization to American infrastructure and advance our nation's environmental progress.

One of AXPC's priorities for the 118th Congress is access to produce on federal lands. Amidst the global backdrop of high energy prices and skyrocketing inflation, the TAPP American Resources Act will ensure that the US Department of the Interior (DOI) is supporting access to produce oil and natural gas on federal lands.

The TAPP American Resources Act will protect the integrity of the Mineral Leasing Act by requiring DOI to hold statutorily required lease sales, which will generate revenue for the federal government. Additionally, it would prevent any administration from unilaterally banning federal energy leasing without Congressional approval.

The legislation will provide much-needed certainty to the producers of all forms of energy by setting firm deadlines for Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements. Additionally, the TAPP American Resources Act recognizes that it is critical to address energy infrastructure permitting in order to increase domestic production.

This bill will streamline environmental reviews for all forms of energy infrastructure while maintaining environmental protections. It further addresses streamlining the approval process for infrastructure by eliminating duplicative reviews and analyses.

AXPC appreciates the Committee's actions to promote the growth of domestic energy production. As we have seen over the past year, domestic energy production is key to both energy affordability and energy security. We encourage Members of the Committee to support the TAPP American Resources Act at today's markup.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Troy Lyons", is displayed within a light gray rectangular box.

Troy Lyons
Vice President, Government Affairs
American Exploration & Production Council