



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

March 8, 2023

Hon. Bruce Westerman
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
202 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: TAPP American Resources Act

Dear Chairman Westerman:

On behalf of the Southern Ute Tribal Council, this letter is to express the Tribe's support for the Transparency, Accountability, Permitting, and Production of American Resources Act ("TAPP American Resources Act"). The Southern Ute Indian Tribe ("Tribe") is a major producer and developer of oil and natural gas in Indian Country, throughout the Southwest and in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Tribe is also an environmental regulator, committed to protecting the environment. In order to develop its natural resources, the Tribe must rely on approvals and permits from multiple federal agencies. Historically, the burdens imposed by NEPA have delayed or derailed key projects essential for economic development of the Tribe. The TAPP American Resources Act addresses many of the obstacles the Tribe faces. We are encouraged by the Bill's introduction and look forward to reviewing it as it progresses.

Sincerely,

Melvin J Baker
Chairman
Southern Ute Indian Tribe