

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman, House Natural Resources
202 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0404



Re: NHEC Supports NEPA Reform

July 21, 2025

Dear Chairman Westerman,

On behalf of the National Hispanic Energy Council (NHEC), we are writing in support of the House Natural Resources' efforts to streamline the National Energy Policy Act (NEPA) process. This is especially important for the Hispanic families and businesses that NHEC represents, as these reforms will result in more reliable and affordable energy to close the gap of energy inequity.

Founded in 2022, the National Hispanic Energy Council is built on the principle of fair and equitable energy for all Americans, driven by the urgent need to reduce the 24% higher energy costs Hispanic families pay compared to the median American family. Drawing on expertise from across the economy and Hispanic community, NHEC exists to fill a void in advocacy: a voice for energy policies that help Hispanic families and businesses. Our mission is inclusive because our advocacy supports the need for all Americans to have equitable access to affordable, reliable energy from all sources.

NHEC supports all-of-the-above energy policies that promote affordability and reliability for the most vulnerable populations. We believe that smart energy policy can lead to energy equity for Hispanic families throughout the nation.

These bipartisan efforts to streamline the permitting process are not only a win for overdue energy projects but also for Hispanic families who face above-average energy burdens. NEPA reform will result in quicker permitting timelines for both traditional and renewable energy projects, increasing energy independence and national security. Whenever projects are delayed or canceled, communities that pay disproportionately more in energy costs are hit the hardest. By addressing the legal and procedural bottlenecks, projects can move forward quickly to provide affordable energy for Hispanic communities.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer these comments and urge the House Natural Resources Committee to pass essential permitting reform.

Sincerely,

Julio Fuentes
Chairman of NHEC

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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