

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

Re: CEA Strongly Supports for NEPA Reform

July 21, 2025

Dear Chairman Westerman,

On behalf of Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA) and our membership, we are writing in support of the House Natural Resources' efforts to streamline the National Energy Policy Act (NEPA) process. These reforms not only benefit the industrial and energy sectors, but also reduce costs and increase reliability for consumers.

Founded in 2006, CEA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization advocating for a balanced energy policy and responsible access to resources. CEA represents virtually every sector of the U.S. economy – from the iron and steel industry to truckers, airlines, agriculture, labor organizations, restaurants, chemical manufacturers, small businesses, and families across the nation – that are concerned about U.S. energy policies, energy security, and long-term price and supply stability.

Our members support a rational, all-of-the-above energy policy that utilizes all of our domestic natural resources – both traditional and renewable – while ensuring commonsense environmental protections are in place.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was designed to promote environmental sustainability by considering the potential impacts of federal projects; however, over time, the process has become overly burdensome, costly, and time-consuming. The current permitting process burdens energy projects with excessive paperwork and litigation. This pushes back project completion timelines, leading to costly delays or cancelation. Lengthy timelines for permitting harm all types of energy projects and their ability to bring necessary power to the electric grid.

NEPA reform is also essential for bringing clarity and predictability to the project planning process. The current framework has left agencies with outdated or incomplete procedures, creating legal uncertainty. This harms the nation's ability to compete in the global market for important energy, manufacturing, and data center projects. Unnecessarily long permitting timelines could cause the U.S. to lose infrastructure projects to other countries.

Efforts to streamline the permitting process are not only a win for overdue energy projects but also for consumers who face risks of unreliability or high energy costs. NEPA reform will result in quicker permitting timelines for both traditional and renewable energy projects, increasing energy independence and national security. These reforms ease the burden on consumers by

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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CONSUMER **ENERGY** ALLIANCE

making energy project approvals more predictable, gaining quicker access to reliable, always available electricity, and lowering costs through affordable, domestically produced energy.

We urge the House Natural Resources Committee and Congress to as a whole to take meaningful action on permitting reform.

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Hammons

Kaitlin Hammons
Vice President
Consumer Energy Alliance

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