



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

Ranking Member Jared Huffman
Committee on Natural Resources
1332 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

September 9, 2025

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman,

On behalf of the American Petroleum Institute, I write to express our strong support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act, recently introduced as a bipartisan effort to modernize the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and modernize permitting processes.

NEPA was originally intended to ensure thoughtful environmental stewardship in the development of federal projects. However, over time, it has become an overly complex and inefficient system, often subject to prolonged litigation and procedural delays that hinder critical infrastructure development across the country. In its current form, NEPA has created barriers to economic growth, delayed vital investments in energy, transportation, broadband, and water infrastructure, and restricted America's ability to lead in emerging sectors such as artificial intelligence.

The SPEED Act represents a thoughtful and much-needed update to this outdated process. By shortening permitting timelines, reducing excessive litigation, and clarifying the definition of "Major Federal Action," this legislation returns NEPA to its intended purpose—protecting the environment while enabling timely, strategic development. Furthermore, the act's emphasis on judicial review limitations and updating the analysis required in environmental documents will provide federal agencies with the clarity and flexibility they need to move forward efficiently without sacrificing environmental integrity.

Modernizing permitting processes does not mean compromising our environmental values. In fact, it ensures that we can act swiftly and responsibly to meet today's energy demands, build resilient infrastructure, and maintain America's competitive edge globally—all while upholding our commitment to environmental stewardship.



We commend the bipartisan collaboration in introducing the SPEED Act and urge Congress to move quickly in advancing this important legislation. The United States must reclaim its ability to build smartly, swiftly, and sustainably—and the SPEED Act is a critical step in that direction.

Thank you for your continued service and dedication to strengthening both our economy and our environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kristin Whitman", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Kristin Whitman
Senior Vice President
Federal Relations
American Petroleum Institute