



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

On behalf of the millions of Americans for Prosperity grassroots activists across the country, we applaud the introduction of the ***Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act***, led by **Chairman Bruce Westerman** of Arkansas.

For some time, the American people have been calling for a revitalization of the United States' wealth-generating capabilities—particularly in the areas of permitting, energy, and mineral resources. Alongside President Donald Trump and the U.S. Senate, this Congress has a critical opportunity to provide certainty to industries, states, and individuals that the federal government is serious about enacting long-overdue reforms to laws passed more than 50 years ago. Chief among them is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which must be modernized for the 21st century.

In the *SPEED Act*, Chairman Westerman outlines commonsense codifications of key elements from the Supreme Court's recent decision in *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition v. Eagle County, Colorado*, ensuring that the NEPA process remains procedural—not political. The bill also establishes timelines and guardrails for when the NEPA process is triggered by appropriately redefining what constitutes a “Major Federal Action,” ensuring that federal resources are focused on projects that truly warrant such review.

To address the litigation-heavy environment surrounding NEPA, the *SPEED Act* proposes updates to the types of challenges that can be brought under the law and introduces predictable timelines for project sponsors. For too long, lawsuits have drained the will, capital, and resolve of those seeking to responsibly permit key energy and infrastructure projects. Industry and project sponsors are ready for a new era of innovation, energy development, and infrastructure advancement to deliver the next generation of technology to the American people.

As energy demand is set to rise dramatically in the United States, the *SPEED Act* offers a timely opportunity to enact bipartisan reforms to the NEPA process. It provides much-needed certainty for the future buildout of our energy, electric grid, and industrial sectors—areas that are urgently in need of modernization. We commend the House Natural Resources Committee for initiating this important conversation and encourage Members to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Americans for Prosperity