



September 15, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources
202 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman
Ranking Member, House Committee on Natural Resources
2330 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman,

On behalf of the Commercial Space Federation (CSF), the leading trade association for the U.S. commercial space industry, I am writing to encourage action to reform our Nation's outdated environmental permitting system in support of maintaining U.S. leadership in space. Doing so would accelerate the development of critical space infrastructure and activities, bolstering America's national security and economic competitiveness.

While CSF supports the intent and goals of key environmental statutes, the implementation and litigation associated with such laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), has since become a major obstacle to industrial and economic growth in America. Compliance with environmental reviews continues to be the most significant regulatory hurdle associated with licensing and conducting commercial space activities, placing additional schedule and costs burdens on launch and reentry operators, spaceports, and space launch infrastructure improvements. As a result, current processes hinder U.S. national competitiveness, missions of national interest, and the economic benefits associated with the commercial space industry.

CSF supports the bipartisan effort toward permitting reform included in H.R. 4776, the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act and applauds the leadership of Chairman Westerman and Representative Golden on this issue. The SPEED Act will modernize NEPA by streamlining the permitting process and reducing meritless litigation and judicial overreach. These updates will provide greater certainty for U.S. commercial space operators and reduce procedural inefficiencies. These commonsense reforms will provide immediate and lasting relief to the commercial space industry, supporting continued growth and development and maintaining U.S. leadership in the sector.

CSF respectfully encourages the prompt consideration and passage of the SPEED Act to provide these much-needed reforms to U.S. permitting processes and unleash the commercial space industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Cavossa".

Dave Cavossa
President
Commercial Space Federation