



November 20th, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources

The Honorable Jared Huffman
Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources

Dear Chairman Westerman, Ranking Member Huffman, & Members of the Committee:

On behalf of **Americans for Prosperity**, **Concerned Veterans for America**, and **The LIBRE Initiative** grassroots activists across the country, we urge you to support **H.R. 4776, the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development Act (SPEED Act)**, sponsored by Chairman Bruce Westerman of Arkansas and Representative Jared Golden of Maine.

The United States has long been an energy leader, but innovators, business owners, and small enterprises need clarity and consistency from Congress to build the next generation of technology and energy systems. The demand for affordable energy is on the rise, in part due to technological innovations like AI and the electrification of the power grid. Americans can no longer afford to have key energy projects delayed due to a burdensome, and overly complex permitting process. Now is the time to prioritize certainty and support bipartisan legislation that keeps America energy dominant and economically strong.

Recent Supreme Court decisions have only clarified the need for the SPEED Act. Following the Supreme Court's 8-0 *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition et al. v. Eagle County, Colorado, et al.* ("Seven County") decision, legislation like the SPEED Act is more critical than ever. In *Seven County*, the Court held that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires agencies to consider only the environmental effects of the project under review—not separate upstream or downstream projects outside their jurisdiction. Notably, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned the D.C. Circuit's rejection of the U.S. Surface Transportation Board's NEPA decision when the Circuit considered wholly unrelated and conceptual effects.

With this clarity from the Supreme Court, now is the perfect time for the House Natural Resources Committee—on a bipartisan basis—to advance reforms to NEPA through the SPEED Act. This legislation delivers much-needed improvements, including:

- Establishing clear timelines and processes for NEPA reviews, ensuring predictability for projects and sponsors.
- Affirming the Court's decision that NEPA is a procedural statute only ensuring that the NEPA process cannot be weaponized to stop an otherwise appropriate project through bureaucratic over-analysis.
- Limiting NEPA analysis to environmental effects with a direct causal relationship to the proposed action.
- Implementing appropriate reforms to the judicial review process.
- Allowing agencies to use equivalent state and Tribal reviews to satisfy NEPA requirements, reducing duplication and fostering collaboration.

We commend Chairman Bruce Westerman and Representative Jared Golden for their bipartisan leadership in addressing the need for clarity in NEPA implementation. At markup, Members of this Committee have an opportunity to embrace this bipartisan effort and support this key legislation. We strongly encourage a "YES" vote on final passage on **H.R. 4776, the SPEED Act**, during markup in the Committee on Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

John Vick
Executive Director
Concerned Veterans for America

Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Americans for Prosperity

Daniel Garza
President
The LIBRE Initiative