

November 20, 2025

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

Re: CEA Support for the *SPEED Act*

Dear Chairman Westerman,

On behalf of the Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA) and our membership, we are writing in support of the House Natural Resources Committee's efforts to streamline the *National Energy Policy Act (NEPA)* review process through the *Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act*. These reforms not only benefit the industrial and energy sectors, but also reduce costs and increase reliability for residential 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.

NEPA was designed to support environmental stewardship by establishing a review process for federal infrastructure projects and any potential impacts on the environment. However, over time, the process has become unduly burdensome, costly, and time-consuming. The current permitting process burdens energy projects with excessive paperwork and too often leads to litigation, which extends project timelines, resulting in costly delays and, in some instances, outright cancellation. The current *NEPA* process is especially concerning due to the looming reliability challenges, warned by experts, to our current system, and the extent to which our system needs to be improved and expanded to meet the exponential growth in energy demand in the coming years.

The *Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act* will eliminate those barriers and restore *NEPA* its original intent: informing regulators, promoting environmentally responsible development, and uplifting the well-being of the people. By reasserting that *NEPA* is a procedural statute meant to ***consider*** environmental impacts, not mandate outcomes, the *SPEED Act* clarifies *NEPA*'s original charge. Additionally, the *SPEED Act*

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provides clarity on key procedural aspects of the process and creates certainty and efficiency going forward through updated frameworks.

Integrating clarifying practices streamlines and updates a process that has lost its purpose due to burdensome regulatory changes and court challenges. . CEA believes the *SPEED Act* will provide clarity necessary to ensure our energy system is built to support greater reliability and affordability for consumers.

We appreciate the leadership and work on the *SPEED Act* and fully support the passage of the bill through the House Natural Resources Committee.



Kaitlin Hammons
Chief Operating Officer
Consumer Energy Alliance

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