



GCAA

GEORGIA
CONSTRUCTION
AGGREGATE
ASSOCIATION

November 20, 2025

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

Dear Chairman Westerman,

On behalf of the Georgia Construction Aggregate Association (GCAA) and our member companies that supply essential construction materials for the infrastructure, energy and agriculture sectors, I am writing to express our strong support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. This legislation clarifies the analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), enabling agencies to better balance environmental protection with economic development.

The Georgia Construction Aggregate Association is a business trade association in the state of Georgia. We are the policy arm of the aggregate association in our state. The GCAA consist of the eight aggregate producer companies with over 70 quarry sites in the state. We also represent 125 associate members who support the aggregate industry.

In Georgia, our members have experienced that NEPA reviews often take much longer than the two years set by federal guidance. Vague requirements and overlapping responsibilities among agencies contribute to these delays, making it challenging for project sponsors to plan, budget and advance projects with certainty. As a result, public works are delayed, private investments stall, and access to essential construction materials is limited. These inefficiencies affect producers and every public agency and contractor working to build roads, bridges and water systems on schedule and within budget.

The SPEED Act clarifies that NEPA is a procedural statute that requires federal agencies to consider environmental impacts without mandating specific outcomes. By limiting comments from cooperating agencies to issues within their jurisdiction, the SPEED Act helps ensure that only relevant input is considered, therefore reducing unnecessary delays, discouraging interference and creating a more predictable review process.

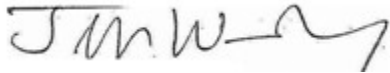
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One of the more critical sections of the bill is the exclusion of federal funding alone as a trigger for NEPA. Under current NEPA implementation, the receipt of federal funding, whether in the form of discretionary grants, subsidies or formula funding, is often treated by agencies as sufficient to trigger a full environmental review. This occurs even when the federal agency exercises no permitting, siting or operational authority over the project. The SPEED Act reinforces the principle that NEPA applies only when the federal government has an actual decision-making role, through permitting, regulatory control or approval power, not just when it supplies funds. This may be the most pivotal section of the bill as Congress begins considering the next surface reauthorization. GCAA strongly endorses the view that federal funding is intended for projects, not just for environmental review and litigation surrounding them.

GCAA strongly endorses the SPEED Act and urges the Committee on Natural Resources and the full House of Representatives to swiftly pass this critical legislation. Thank you for your leadership in advancing common-sense permitting reform.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "JWansley", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeff Wansley
Executive Director