



November 19, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman  
Chairman  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman,

On behalf of the Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME), I am writing to express our strong support for H.R. 4776, the *Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act*. This legislation is an important step in modernizing the permitting process without compromising environmental stewardship.

The commercial explosives industry, including manufacturers, distributors and users of commercial explosives, supports more than 60,000 jobs and contributes over \$19 billion to the U.S. economy annually. Commercial explosives are essential for quarrying, mining critical minerals, producing both traditional (oil and natural gas) and renewable sources of energy, and building a modern infrastructure.

High explosives like TNT, HMX, RDX, HNS, and PETN are essential to both the commercial explosives sector and our defense industrial base. U.S. production of TNT, HMX, RDX and HNS is severely constrained. By streamlining the NEPA permitting process, the SPEED Act takes a critical step toward rebuilding America's high-explosive supply chains and strengthening long-term industrial and defense readiness.

IME stands ready to work with you to advance this important piece of legislation.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Clark Mica', with a stylized, flowing script.

J. Clark Mica  
President