



Nov. 19, 2025

Dear Chairman Westerman and Congressman Golden,

The Seven County Infrastructure Coalition develops large multi-jurisdictional infrastructure projects in Utah. We recently prevailed in a landmark Supreme Court Decision in *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition vs. Eagle County Colorado*. This victory significantly curtailed out of control special interests efforts to kill quality infrastructure projects. However, additional congressional action codifying the court's intent is needed. We express our appreciation to Chairman Westerman and Congressman Golden for the reforms in the SPEED Act of 2025. This draft legislation contains important provisions that address many outstanding concerns, including:

- Clarifying the definition of “reasonably foreseeable” to only include areas directly affected by the major Federal action, directly under the control of an agency, and having a reasonably close causal relationship between a change in the environment and the project.
- Stating that no federal agency shall be required to consider any research after the receipt of a completed application.
- Limiting cooperating agencies’ comments to matters relating to the proposed action and within their jurisdiction by law or special expertise.
- Establishing parameters and a timeline around judicial review of environmental documents and final agency actions.

NEPA is important to infrastructure because it serves as the regulatory framework for considering environmental protection throughout project planning, design, and construction. The administrative burdens placed on local government agencies, design professionals, contractors, and others are expensive and time consuming. Additionally, these projects carry a high potential for costly litigation, further dissuading communities from taking on this critical work.

The changes initially proposed in the BUILDER Act and finalized as part of the Fiscal Responsibility Act and our recent success at the Supreme Court have been vital in delivering a coordinated, predictable, transparent, and expedited permitting process. This legislation reemphasizes these commonsense reforms. If you have questions, please contact me at kheaton@7county.utah.gov or 801-230-7804.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Heaton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Keith Heaton

Executive Director, Seven County Infrastructure Coalition