

November 21, 2025

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

Dear Chairman Westerman:

I write today in support of the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act (H.R. 4776). This bipartisan legislation represents a critical step toward modernizing federal permitting processes and enabling America to meet its growing infrastructure and energy demands without compromising environmental stewardship.

In the coming years, Southern Company is planning to invest more than \$70 billion in energy infrastructure to meet growing demand and continue to provide affordable, reliable energy to the customers and communities we are privileged to serve. The SPEED Act's emphasis on procedural clarity and timely judicial review for infrastructure projects aligns with our belief that building America's future and keeping energy affordable relies on the timely and responsible deployment of new infrastructure.

At Southern Company, we believe America does not need to choose between winning the AI race and keeping energy affordable for hardworking families and small businesses. We are proving both are possible by aggressively investing in our communities while keeping energy rates more than 10 percent below the national average. Additional certainty on permitting will help mitigate project delays that lead to higher project costs that threaten affordability and reliability for our customers.

As America enters a new era of energy innovation, the SPEED Act offers a path forward that balances economic development with environmental responsibility. We urge Congress to advance this legislation and help ensure the United States remains the world's energy superpower, and we look forward to continuing to work constructively with you and your team on this important legislation.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,



Bryan Anderson
Executive Vice President & President, External Affairs