



November 12, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Golden
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman and Representative Golden:

On behalf of The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) and our more than 250 member companies across the fertilizer supply chain who work every day to meet the plant nutrient needs of America's farmers, I write in support H.R. 4776, the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act.

While 90% of global fertilizer consumption occurs outside of the United States, developing new domestic fertilizer production capacity — adding additional mines, plants, and processing facilities — is essential to ensuring U.S. farmers have reliable supplies of all types of fertilizer. Fertilizer production is highly capital-intensive. Over the past decade, billions of dollars have been invested by U.S. fertilizer producers to expand our nation's fertilizer production capacity, including the announcement of investments just this year. Additional production expansions are in earlier stages of development but are facing legal challenges as they move through the permitting process.

The SPEED Act would support the development of new domestic fertilizer production facilities by modernizing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), while maintaining its intent. First, the legislation would institute important reforms to NEPA's judicial review process, requiring potential plaintiffs to submit relevant comments during the public comment period before filing suit and reducing the statute of limitations for litigation from six years to 150 days, and mandating that courts can only remand an action back to the lead agency. H.R. 4776 codifies many aspects of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition*, limiting agencies to only consider environmental impacts with a "reasonably close causal relationship" to the project under review and enabling a project to move forward while additional documentation needs are addressed. Additionally, the SPEED Act will improve coordination between agencies and ensure that environmental reviews are right sized for the specifics of the project.

The development of new fertilizer is subject to stringent environmental review and numerous federal, state, and local requirements. NEPA was developed as a procedural law to guide this review, yet for too many years its provisions have been used by litigants to slow down and block the development of

projects that require a federal permit. The SPEED Act will build on the *Seven County* decision and return the law to its role as a “purely procedural statute.” This will result in an improved environment for private sector investment in critical facilities, reduce red tape, and speed up the project development process, all while maintaining strong environmental protections.

TFI urges Congress to act on the SPEED Act and other important reforms of the environmental permitting process to help unleash domestic fertilizer production, meeting American farmers’ need for critical crop nutrients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Thomas P. Lynch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'T' and 'L'.

Tom Lynch

Senior Vice President, Government Affairs

The Fertilizer Institute