



November 17, 2025

Submitted via Madeline.Kelley@mail.house.gov

The Honorable Bruce Westerman, Chairman
The Honorable Jared Huffman, Ranking Member
House Committee on Natural Resources
United States House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Letter of Support for the Streamlining Permitting, Efficiency, and Economic Development (SPEED) Act

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman:

On behalf of The Petroleum Alliance of Oklahoma (The Alliance), I am writing to express strong support for the Streamlining Permitting, Efficiency, and Economic Development (SPEED) Act. This crucial legislation represents a necessary and pragmatic step toward modernizing our nation's outdated regulatory framework, which has become a significant impediment to the development of critical energy resources and infrastructure and, by extension, the economic well-being of the United States.

The Alliance is the only trade association in Oklahoma to represent all sectors of the state's oil and natural gas industry. Representing more than 1,700 individuals and member companies, the Alliance's membership includes oil and natural gas producers, service providers to the oil and natural gas industry, midstream companies, refiners, and other associated businesses. Our members include companies of all sizes, ranging from small, family-owned companies to large, publicly traded corporations. Alliance members are responsible for 83% of total operated crude oil and natural gas production in Oklahoma and have operations, assets, or interests in most of the United States' oil and natural gas producing regions.

Additionally, our members are investing in, and innovating in, the fields of geothermal energy, carbon capture utilization & sequestration, and other potential breakthrough technologies. Thanks to abundant, reliable, and clean-burning natural gas for power generation, the United States is the world leader in greenhouse gas reductions. Without our members' work, the United States cannot win a power-hungry 4th industrial revolution driven by the development of artificial intelligence.

But our members need regulatory certainty and permitting efficiency. Many of our members operate on federal lands and develop federal minerals in Oklahoma and in other states, and the SPEED Act will have significant positive effects for economic activity, job creation, and U.S. energy security.

The current, often opaque, and excessively drawn-out permitting process leads to project delays that cost billions of dollars and undermines the reliability of our energy supply. Our members report that vital projects — like oil and gas and pipeline development on federal lands — are frequently trapped in



regulatory limbo for years. The uncertainty created by this bureaucratic process discourages investment, suppresses job creation, and makes it impossible for the American oil and gas industry to respond swiftly to the dynamic needs of the U.S. and global energy market.

The SPEED Act addresses these fundamental flaws by implementing clear, common-sense reforms rooted in the principle that the National Environmental Policy Act must be returned to its intended purpose as a procedural statute. Establishing defined timelines for federal reviews, requiring concurrent agency action, and providing robust judicial review certainty will not only inject necessary accountability and predictability into the system but will also significantly reduce the opportunity for meritless legal challenges that routinely halt progress. Specifically, the Act aims to narrow the scope of required environmental review to focus on direct, predictable impacts, while instituting firm statutes of limitations for lawsuits and providing document durability to prevent permits from being endlessly revoked or stalled between administrations.

Importantly, the Act is technology-neutral, meaning these vital reforms will accelerate the deployment of all necessary energy infrastructure and the development of domestic mineral and mining projects. This acceleration is vital for securing American supply chains and maintaining global leadership in the advancement of emerging technologies. Passage of this Act will not only accelerate the deployment of responsible energy resources and key projects across the Natural Resources Committee's jurisdiction, including forest management and water infrastructure, but will also immediately spur infrastructure investment, creating thousands of high-wage, skilled jobs across the country. Furthermore, a more reliable energy infrastructure is essential for maintaining global competitiveness and strengthening our national energy security.

Our national energy security, our global competitiveness, and the economic prosperity of American workers depend on a modernized regulatory process. The Alliance implores you to champion the passage of the SPEED Act without delay. This legislation is the most direct route to rebuilding and modernizing the infrastructure backbone our nation requires.

Sincerely,

Brook A. Simmons
President