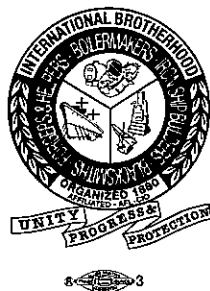


International Brotherhood of  
**BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS**

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**CECILE M. CONROY**  
DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
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**BLACKSMITHS • FORGERS & HELPERS**

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June 27, 2017

Hon. Greg Walden, Chairman  
Committee on Energy & Commerce  
US House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Frank Pallone, Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy & Commerce  
US House of Representatives  
2322A Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Pallone,

On behalf of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers (IBB), I write in support of the *Hydropower Regulatory Modernization of 2017* discussion draft. This bill aims to reform the licensing and regulation of hydro electricity generation.

The regulatory process to license and build new hydropower facilities is extremely inefficient, particularly compared to wind and solar. For example, the Integrated Licensing Process put in place for hydropower projects takes up to five years, versus the licensing process for wind and solar which takes only 18 to 24 months. As the United States moves toward a lower-carbon energy future, it is clear that hydropower will play a critical role in that transition. However, the lengthy and expensive licensing guidelines is not only stalling this transition, it also negatively impacts job creation in this critical sector.

Hydro generation continues to be a very viable renewable energy source. And, as a carbon-free source of electricity, it is imperative that Congress support the efficient and timely approval of hydropower projects.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Cecile M. Conroy  
Director, Government Affairs

cc: Newton B. Jones, International President  
William T. Creeden, International Secretary-Treasurer  
U.S. International Vice Presidents  
U.S. International Construction Sector Representatives