The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 21, 2026

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the undersigned energy, housing, infrastructure, manufacturing, labor, transportation, and business organizations, we urge you to bring the *Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026* (S. 5653) to the floor and deliver much-needed permitting reform for American consumers this year.

With Americans focused on rising costs, permitting reform presents Congress with one of its most consequential opportunities to address affordability this Congress. Modernizing the nation's permitting system can help improve energy affordability, strengthen economic competitiveness, unlock investment, and restore confidence in the nation's ability to build critical infrastructure. Congress should seize this opportunity and act.

This legislation represents years of good-faith bipartisan negotiations and stakeholder engagement. It reflects a broad consensus that our nation's permitting framework, much of which was established decades ago, no longer meets the needs of a modern economy. The House has already laid the groundwork. The Senate has now introduced bipartisan legislation both chambers should support and send to the President.

Permitting reform is an economic and affordability imperative.

At a time of rising energy costs, renewed domestic manufacturing, expanding energy infrastructure needs, and intensifying global competition, the nation's ability to permit and build major projects is an economic and national security imperative.

Today, projects across the economy face lengthy reviews, duplicative processes, unpredictable timelines, and prolonged litigation. The result is higher costs, delayed infrastructure, reduced investment, and missed opportunities for workers, communities, and consumers. Comprehensive reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Clean Water Act Section 401, the

Nationwide Permit program, and judicial review processes are critical to addressing these challenges and creating a system that produces timely, predictable, and legally durable decisions.

These reforms maintain environmental protections while improving transparency, predictability, and accountability. Unnecessary delays can increase costs, discourage investment, and can ultimately put additional pressure on consumers. Judicial review reforms that provide for timely resolution of legal challenges and greater durability for final agency decisions are an essential component of meaningful permitting reform.

Importantly, this package is technology-neutral. It does not favor any industry, fuel, or technology. Rather, it advances a permitting process capable of supporting the infrastructure needed across our economy, including energy production and delivery, manufacturing facilities, transportation networks, ports, waterways, critical minerals projects, and other essential infrastructure.

America cannot meet rising demand, strengthen domestic manufacturing, or maintain affordability of energy and other essential products if it cannot build the infrastructure those goals require.

Comprehensive permitting reform is among the most consequential economic policies Congress can enact. It will help unlock investment for infrastructure, support more affordable and reliable energy delivery, strengthen domestic manufacturing, improve the delivery of goods and services, and provide meaningful relief to American consumers. Reliable infrastructure is essential to economic growth, affordability, national security, supply chain resilience, and America's ability to compete globally.

Businesses are prepared to invest billions of dollars in projects across the country, but investment requires predictable permitting timelines and confidence that final agency decisions will withstand judicial review. A more efficient and durable permitting system can enable resources to move from production regions to homes, businesses, manufacturers, and global markets more reliably and efficiently, helping meet demand and affordability.

The breadth of the coalition supporting permitting reform reflects the economy-wide stakes. Workers, businesses, infrastructure developers, manufacturers, energy producers, and communities all benefit from a permitting system that delivers timely, predictable, and durable decisions.

The alternative is continued delay. Without action, the United States will continue to face infrastructure bottlenecks, investment uncertainty, affordability challenges, and permitting obstacles that only comprehensive reform can meaningfully address.

America's workers are ready. America's builders are ready. America's communities are ready.

We respectfully urge Congress to bring comprehensive bipartisan permitting reform legislation to the floor this fall. This package represents the most significant effort in decades to modernize permitting statutes that have evolved little over the past 50 years. It offers a durable path forward

that will strengthen the economy, enhance affordability, support domestic investment, improve energy security, and restore America's ability to build.

The time is now.

Sincerely,

American Petroleum Institute
Alliance for Automotive Innovation
Alliance for Chemical Distribution
American Cement Association
American Chemistry Council
American Exploration and Production Council
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Gas Association
American Pipeline Contractors Association
Association of American Railroads
Center for LNG
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute
Distribution Contractors Association
Electric Power Supply Association
Energy Workforce & Technology Council
GPA Midstream Association
Independent Electrical Contractors
Independent Petroleum Association of America
International Liquid Terminal Association (ILTA)
Interstate Natural Gas Association of America
Liquid Energy Pipeline Association
LNG Allies
Manufacturer & Business Association
Manufacturing Policy Alliance
National Association of Manufacturers
National Hydropower Association
National Ocean Industries Association
National Utility Contractors Association
National Association of Home Builders
Natural Gas Supply Association
Plastics Pipe Institute
Power and Communication Contractors Association
Steel Manufacturers Association
The Associated General Contractors of America
The Association of Union Constructors
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Oil & Gas Association
ABC Minnesota/North Dakota

Arkansas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners
Alliance for Energy Choice
Associated Builders and Contractors Appalachia
Associated General Contractors of Ohio
Associated General Contractors of Kansas
Associated Industries of Florida
Associated Industries of Missouri
Associated Pennsylvania Constructors
California Independent Petroleum Association
Chemical Industry Council of Illinois
Clean Fuels Ohio
Colorado Business Roundtable
Colorado Concern
Colorado Oil & Gas Association
Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
Florida Natural Gas Association
Florida Petroleum Marketers Association
Florida Propane Gas Association
Fuel Iowa
Gas & Oil Association of West Virginia
Housing First Minnesota
Illinois Fuel Retailers Association
Illinois Oil & Gas Association
Independent Oil and Gas Association of New York
Indiana Oil and Gas Association
Iowa Association of Business and Industry
JobsOhio
Kansas Chamber of Commerce
Kansas Contractors Association
Kansas Manufacturing Council
Kansas Retail Council
Keystone Contractors Association
Louisiana Chemistry Association
Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association
Louisiana Oil & Gas Association
Maine Energy Marketers Association
Marcellus Shale Coalition
Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay
Massachusetts Energy Marketers Association
Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce
Michigan Association of Convenience Stores
Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Chemistry Council
Michigan Manufacturers Association

Michigan Oil And Gas Association
Michigan Petroleum Association
Midwest Truckers
Minnesota Forest Industries
Minnesota Grocers Association
Minnesota Private Business Council
Minnesota Service Station and Convenience Store Association
Minnesota Transportation Alliance
Mississippi Business Alliance
Missouri Natural Gas Association
Missouri Petroleum and Convenience Association
Nebraska Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association
New Jersey Energy Marketers Group
New Mexico Business Coalition
New Mexico Home Builders Association
New Mexico Oil & Gas Association
North Carolina Petroleum & Convenience Marketers
North Dakota Petroleum Council
Ohio Business Roundtable
Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Chemistry Technology Council
Ohio Conservative Energy Forum
Ohio Contractors Association
Ohio Energy and Convenience Association
Ohio Energy Group
Ohio Gas Association
Ohio Home Builders Association
Ohio Manufacturers' Association
Ohio Oil and Gas Association
Pennsylvania Aggregates & Concrete Association
Pennsylvania Builders Association
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry
Pennsylvania Chemical Industry Council
Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association
Pennsylvania Forest Products Association
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association
Pennsylvania Independent Petroleum Producers
Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association
Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association
Pennsylvania State Building & Construction Trades Council
Pennsylvania State Grange
Pennsylvania Utility Contractors Association
Pittsburgh Works Together
SE Oil and Gas Association (AL and MS)

Steamfitters Local 420
Texas Independent Producers & Royalty Owners Association
The Petroleum Alliance of Oklahoma
Utah Petroleum Association
Washington County Chamber of Commerce
West Virginia Chamber of Commerce
West Virginia Manufacturers Association
Western Energy Alliance
Wisconsin Builders Association
Wisconsin Fuel & Retail Association
Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce
Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association