

July 17, 2024 (target date)

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform

Dear Leaders Schumer, McConnell, Johnson, and Jeffries:

The organizations listed below urge Congress to pass permitting reform legislation during this Congress which would increase the development of desperately needed natural gas pipeline capacity for reshoring jobs, dispatchable power generation, and increased electricity transmission capacity. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) reports that pipeline capacity increases in 2022 were the lowest in history. Every FERC and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) electricity reliability reports in recent years have expressed alarm about the reliability of the grid. Without increased natural gas pipeline capacity, we also cannot have electricity grid reliability.

No one is more impacted by inadequate natural gas pipeline capacity than the manufacturing sector. We are the first to be curtailed when there is an insufficient natural gas pipeline supply to serve residential consumers. And, when the power companies cannot get sufficient natural gas supply, again manufacturing is the first to be curtailed. Curtailments are mandatory reductions in supply. The frequency of curtailment rates is increasing annually and comes at significant costs and disruption to manufacturing supply chains that include materials for national security.

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) confirms that the manufacturing sector cannot switch from natural gas to another fuel.¹ And that the equipment that uses natural gas cannot be converted to the use of electricity. Furthermore, we operate 24/7 and require reliable natural gas and electricity, as do data centers.

Manufacturing companies need more natural gas pipeline capacity to reshore, invest, and create high paying middle class jobs that average \$98,846 per year.² Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
Chair, Manufacturers for Increased Natural Gas Pipeline Capacity & Job Creation

¹ EIA Confirms that the Manufacturing Sector Cannot Switch from Natural Gas to Another Fuel, https://www.ieca-us.org/wp-content/uploads/06.04.24_Fuel-Switching.pdf

² U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov

**ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PERMITTING REFORM FOR RESHORING,
JOB CREATION AND A RELIABLE ELECTRICITY GRID**

Brick Industry Association
Carolina Industrial Energy Consumers
Illinois Industrial Energy Consumers
Industrial Energy Consumers of America
Kimberly Clark Corporation
Georgia Association of Manufacturers