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What They Are Saying: H.R. 4776, The SPEED Act

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Recently, House Committee on Natural Resources Chairman Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) and U.S. Rep. Jared Golden (D-Maine) introduced the bipartisan Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. Organizations, officials and a wide variety of industry leaders from across the

country have voiced their support for the legislation that will create certainty in the permitting process and spur domestic investment in critical infrastructure, energy and conservation projects. Here is what leaders in the energy industry are saying:

"AEMC appreciates the focus from the Trump Administration and Congress on reducing reliance on foreign supply chains by developing our country's own mineral resources. Permitting reform is key to unlocking those resources. The bipartisan support for the SPEED Act and increasing attention on critical minerals shows that now is the time to act. Thank you for your continued, active leadership on supporting American mining." – **Gregory Beischer, CEO, president, director, Alaska Energy Metals Corporation**

"The American Clean Power Association writes in support of the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development Act. We appreciate your bipartisan work to reform and improve the National Environmental Policy Act process, which is critical for more effectively and efficiently permitting U.S. energy infrastructure and ensuring reliable and affordable energy for all Americans." – **Frank J. Macchiarola, chief advocacy officer, American Clean Power Association**

"We applaud the bipartisan momentum this Congress has built toward comprehensive permitting reform, including Representative Westerman and Representative Golden's leadership on the SPEED Act...Lawmakers must finish the job of reforming permitting this Congress. Faster permitting will mean lower project costs, reduced electricity prices, and more competitive manufacturing. It will mean American technology companies can build the data centers needed to lead in artificial intelligence, and it will mean that energy developers can deliver reliable, affordable power when and where it's needed." – **American Conservation Coalition Action, American Council on Renewable Energy, American Exploration and Mining Association, Center for Liquefied Natural Gas, Clean Energy Buyers Association, Consumer Energy Alliance, Data Center Coalition, Foundation for American Innovation, Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association, Independent Petroleum Association of America, Institute for Progress, National Association of Manufacturers, National Oceanic Industries Association, National Hydropower Association and U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

"We applaud Chairman Westerman and Rep. Golden for introducing common-sense, durable reforms to fully modernize the NEPA process for all forms of energy, which for too long has put America's energy security at risk through limitless permitting reviews and endless litigation. This bipartisan breakthrough includes key reforms that are essential to speeding up the permitting system, including responsibly cutting red tape out of the NEPA process and instituting judicial reforms. America's permitting system must keep pace with innovation and growing demand, and the SPEED Act takes critical steps to accelerate development of the energy projects needed to keep prices affordable, grow the economy, and beat China in the AI race." – **Anne Bradbury, CEO, American Exploration & Production Council**

"We commend the bipartisan collaboration in introducing the SPEED Act and urge Congress to move quickly in advancing this important legislation. The United States must reclaim its ability to build smartly, swiftly, and sustainably—and the SPEED Act is a critical step in that direction. Thank you for your continued service and dedication to strengthening both our economy and our environment." – **Kristin Whitman, senior vice president of federal relations, American Petroleum Institute**

"The American Public Power Association (APPA) appreciates your efforts to review and refine permitting procedures under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through the recently introduced H.R. 4776, the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. Streamlining the NEPA process and establishing clear guardrails to support timely and efficient reviews will enable public power utilities to build the infrastructure necessary to meet growing electricity demand." – **Desmarie M. Waterhouse, senior vice president of advocacy and communications and general counsel, American Public Power Association**

"The Center for LNG (CLNG) welcomes the bipartisan SPEED Act and its efforts to provide a more predictable permitting process. More certainty in the permitting process for LNG exports and energy infrastructure will further unlock the many benefits of U.S. LNG. Currently, the U.S. LNG industry supports thousands of good-paying domestic jobs; generates millions in tax revenue for federal, state, and local governments; grows our domestic natural gas supply; reduces global greenhouse gas emissions; and supplies our allies and trading partners with a reliable, clean, and affordable source of energy." – **Charlie Riedl, executive director, Center for LNG**

"Integrating modern practices into the 55-year-old law streamlines and updates a system that lost its purpose through the abuse of power. CEA believes that the SPEED Act will provide reliability and innovative, forward-thinking policy in order to provide affordable energy to consumers. We appreciate the work that has been done on the SPEED Act and encourage Congress to take action to reform NEPA." – **Kaitlin Hammons, vice president, Consumer Energy Alliance**

"The members of this coalition applaud you for all your work in looking for solutions to reform our nation's permitting system. The SPEED Act makes many significant changes that would positively impact our members' ability to produce energy in America, and we stand ready to help you get this important bill approved. Thank you and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues to take action on the SPEED Act." – **Energy Workforce & Technology Council, Gulf Energy Alliance, Independent Petroleum Association of America, International Association of Drilling Contractors, National Ocean Industries Association, Texas Alliance of Energy Producers, U.S. Oil & Gas Association, Western Energy Alliance**

"Arkansas appreciates Chairman Westerman's and Representative Golden's leadership to introduce commonsense, bipartisan legislation to help speed the development of energy and infrastructure projects vital to national security and economic growth. Earlier this year, Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders signed into law legislation developed by the Arkansas General Assembly to modernize energy regulation to make our state more attractive to industries seeking

reliable power while maintaining critical consumer protections. Already, industries such as technology companies, lithium, steel, manufacturing, aerospace, defense and forestry are seeking to come to Arkansas or expand existing facilities to provide jobs and economic benefits. The SPEED Act will provide an additional tool to help streamline the review of these projects requiring federal approval and limit judicial delays while also maintaining essential environmental protections." – **Laura Landreaux, president and CEO, Entergy Arkansas**

"Geothermal Rising appreciates the efforts of Chairman Westerman and Representative Golden to address the critical need for comprehensive, bipartisan permitting reform. The SPEED Act is a meaningful step forward in modernizing our outdated and inefficient permitting processes, which are a significant barrier to the development of all energy projects, including geothermal. We are encouraged by the tech-neutral approach of the legislation. By streamlining the permitting process for all energy sources, while maintaining important environmental reviews, the SPEED Act will help to create a more level playing field for innovative technologies like geothermal to compete and grow. We are hopeful that this is the beginning of a productive dialogue that will lead to meaningful reform. Geothermal Rising stands ready to work with Chairman Westerman, Representative Golden, and the entire House Natural Resources Committee as negotiations move forward to ensure that any final legislation will help unlock the full potential of geothermal energy to provide clean, reliable, and affordable power to communities across the country." – **Bryant Jones, executive director, Geothermal Rising**

"On behalf of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA), I write in support of the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act, which would expedite linear infrastructure permitting processes." – **Amy Andrysazak, president and CEO, Interstate Natural Gas Association of America**

"GPA Midstream Association applauds introduction of the bipartisan Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act, which takes meaningful steps to modernize and streamline the federal permitting process. Thanks to Rep. Bruce Westerman (R-AR-4) and Rep. Jared Golden (D-ME-2) for their leadership. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) has become unnecessarily cumbersome and needs to be reformed. This legislation will help do just that, accelerating the development of critical energy infrastructure. This bill will also help ensure special interest groups can't use the courts to stop energy infrastructure construction, which has been done in the past. We commend Congress for recognizing the need for durable permitting reform that balances environmental stewardship with economic growth." – **Stuart Saulters, vice president of federal affairs, GPA Midstream Association**

*"The Natural Gas Supply Association welcomes the long-term regulatory certainty outlined in the SPEED Act –certainty that is needed for natural gas infrastructure investment. The U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition vs. Eagle County*, has helped to streamline the scope of NEPA reviews but the SPEED Act takes this a step further by codifying the Court's core holdings in statute for consistency across agencies. NGSA applauds Chairman Westerman and*

Ranking Member Golden for their efforts." – **Dena Wiggins, president and CEO, Natural Gas Supply Association**

"These reforms offer real benefits to Hispanic households and businesses. The SPEED Act's reforms to NEPA are an important step toward advancing delayed energy projects and easing the burden on Hispanic families, who face disproportionately high energy costs. Faster project timelines will support a more reliable energy grid and lower energy costs by increasing production and reducing delays. We urge the House Natural Resources Committee and Congress to advance the SPEED Act to bring necessary permitting reform." – **Julio Fuentes, chairman, National Hispanic Energy Council**

"The National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) expresses its support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development Act (SPEED Act), introduced by Chairman Westerman and Representative Golden. This bipartisan legislation makes an important step toward modernizing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and establishing a more efficient, predictable, and transparent permitting process for energy and infrastructure projects." – **Erik Milito, president, National Ocean Industries Association**

"By streamlining the federal permitting process, the SPEED Act will help reduce delays and provide the regulatory certainty needed to ensure reliable electricity for communities nationwide. We thank Chairman Westerman and Congressman Golden for addressing the challenges facing grid reliability and urge Congress to pass this bill." – **Jim Matheson, CEO, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association**

"On behalf of the Oceantic Network, we are writing to expressing our gratitude for introducing the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. We commend your leadership in introducing this critical legislation aimed at modernizing and streamlining the federal environmental review and permitting process." – **Sam Salustro, senior vice president of strategic communication, Oceantic Network**

"We commend you for proposing such a comprehensive permitting reform bill and we applaud a number of key provisions in the Act that will provide certainty in the NEPA review process. These provisions will also ward off frivolous litigation and the real threat of vacatur orders when a remand decision related to a potentially flawed NEPA document would provide the required remedy without putting leases, permits and other agency actions in jeopardy due to a vacatur decision. Again, thank you very much for your leadership and vision in introducing this vital legislation. Talos looks forward to seeing the SPEED Act advance to successful passage into law." – **Paul Goodfellow, president and CEO, Talos Energy**

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