



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 water and infrastructure industries are saying:

"By modernizing the NEPA review process, clarifying when NEPA is triggered, and establishing judicial review limits, the SPEED Act will result in quicker infrastructure construction and better use of scarce taxpayer dollars. Not only do ACA members provide foundational building materials for our nation's infrastructure, but they also depend on energy production and carbon management technologies that may require NEPA review for manufacturing. For these reasons, the SPEED Act is a win-win for the cement industry, and the ACA is proud to support it. We look forward to working with the Committee on moving this legislation as it considers its next steps." – **Sean O'Neill, senior vice president of government affairs, American Cement Association**

"On behalf of the state departments of transportation, AASHTO supports ongoing efforts to modernize and streamline the environmental review process. Modernizing the NEPA process through changes like those included in the SPEED Act to better align federal resources agencies' review and permitting actions will support the timely and cost-effective delivery of transportation projects across the nation." – **American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials**

"The SPEED Act would enable long-overdue course corrections to help ensure transportation projects are delivered on time, without jeopardizing the environment. ARTBA appreciates the committee's leadership and looks forward to working with Congress to advance this important legislation." – **Dave Bauer, president and CEO, American Road and Transportation Builders Association**

"The American Public Works Association (APWA) represents 32,000 public works professionals across North America who serve in both the public and private sectors, providing expertise at the local, state and federal government levels. Working in the public interest, our members plan, design, build, operate, and maintain, America's vast infrastructure network that is so fundamental to our economy, environment, public health, and safety. APWA would like to express our appreciation for the reforms Chairman Westerman and Congressman Golden have included in the SPEED Act of 2025." – **Dominick A. Longobardi, president, and Scott D. Grayson, chief executive officer, American Public Works Association**

"The SPEED Act delivers essential reforms to the NEPA process that protect environmental integrity while eliminating unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles and frivolous litigation. It creates a framework that respects both environmental stewardship and economic development by ensuring timely, transparent, and science-based decision-making. We urge the Committee to advance this legislation without delay and thank you for your dedication to modernizing the nation's permitting system in a manner that benefits communities, industry, and the environment." – **Steve Trussell, executive director, Arizona Rock Products Association**

"I am writing on behalf of the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) to express our support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. Modernizing environmental review for covered construction projects will produce multiple beneficial outcomes. By streamlining the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and reducing delays from permitting requirements and litigation, the SPEED Act will bring down project costs and delays." – **Jared D. Wiley, director, Arkansas State Highway Commission**

"ABC supports H.R.573, H.R.4503 and H.R.4776's purpose of promoting a predictable and transparent permitting process for all stakeholders. These bills would enable the construction industry to plan and execute even the most complex projects while safeguarding our communities, maintaining a healthy environment and successfully stewarding public funds. ABC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the committee's legislative business and urges it to report the legislation considered in this hearing to the floor." – **Kristen Swearingen, vice president of government affairs, Associated Builders and Contractors**

"The SPEED Act would give project owners greater certainty, streamline legal review, and align NEPA with recent Supreme Court rulings. It would also introduce rational changes, eliminating redundancy while improving transparency and control over review timelines. The SPEED Act reforms would create a more efficient and predictable process allowing owners to maximize federal transportation dollars. The SPEED Act restores NEPA to its original purpose ensuring environmental stewardship without obstructing economic growth. Garver appreciates your leadership on this issue and looks forward to working with you to advance this important legislation." – **Brock Hoskins, president and CEO, Garver**

"I am writing on behalf of the 3,000-specialty construction contracting employers of the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) to advise you of our strong support for H.R. 4776, the "Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act." This important bipartisan legislation will help further clarify agencies' procedural requirements for project reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), balancing the mutual goals of maintaining environmental protections and spurring new investments in domestic infrastructure and energy development." – **James Gaffney, chairman, Mechanical Contractors Association of America Government Affairs Committee**

"I am writing to express my strong support for the SPEED Act. As the director of the agency responsible for overseeing critical infrastructure projects across our state, the Mississippi Department of Transportation recognizes the importance of streamlining permitting processes to foster economic growth and enhance transportation efficiency." – **Brad White, executive director, Mississippi Department of Transportation**

"Manufacturers thank Chairman Westerman and Rep. Golden for introducing bipartisan permitting reform legislation that will end needless delays and frivolous litigation that's holding back projects and all forms of energy. Congress must build on this momentum through bipartisan permitting reform so we can unlock American

energy dominance for all forms of energy and drive America forward." – **Chris Phalen, vice president of domestic policy, National Association of Manufacturers**

"On behalf of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) and our member companies that supply essential construction materials for the infrastructure, energy and agriculture sectors, I am writing to express our strong support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. This legislation clarifies the analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), enabling agencies to better balance environmental protection with economic development." – **Michele Stanley, interim CEO, National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association**

"Thank you for your bipartisan leadership in advancing legislation to address some of the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) implementation issues that frequently cause delays and significant additional costs for critical water conservation and development projects. The Oregon Water Resources Congress (OWRC) firmly agrees there are better ways to efficiently and transparently review environmental impacts of projects and write to express our support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act, which will help move this important environmental law in the right direction." – **April Snell, executive director, Oregon Water Resources Congress**

"We applaud the reforms in the SPEED Act and believe they are essential to ensuring that energy infrastructure projects can be built on time, on budget, and in a manner that supports economic growth, grid reliability, and job creation. We are proud to support this legislation, and we encourage swift consideration and passage." – **Vanessa Tutos, vice president of government affairs, Quanta Services**

"Last week, Chairman Bruce Westerman (R-AR) of the Committee on Natural Resources and Congressman Jared Golden (D-Maine) introduced the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act to address much needed improvements to the environmental review processes under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Streamlining the excessively complex and burdensome review process under NEPA is a tide that lifts all ships. Meaningful reform, including confidence in timely and efficient judicial review when needed, would improve development timelines and certainty for projects across industrial sectors, including hardrock mineral extraction, construction of mineral processing and refining facilities, and the buildout of transmission infrastructure. ZETA greatly appreciates Chairman Westerman and Rep. Golden's thoughtful and substantive effort to improve the federal review process for all projects. We look forward to working with them and Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to continue advancing America's manufacturing capacity and development of domestic supply chains." – **Rebecca Konolige, director of federal affairs, Zero Emission Transportation Association**

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