



September 17, 2014

The Honorable Lee Terry  
2266 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Terry,

The Distribution Contractors Association (DCA) represents contractors, suppliers and manufacturers who provide construction services including installation, replacement and rehabilitation of natural gas distribution and transmission pipelines, water and wastewater infrastructure, as well as fiber optic, cable and duct systems in communities across the country. DCA appreciates the introduction of the American Energy Solutions for Lower Costs & More American Jobs Act (HR 2) which includes a collection of sound energy legislation previously passed by the House during the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress.

According to IHS Global Insight, gas and oil from shale resources created 2.1 million American jobs in 2012 and will support almost four million more jobs 2025. IHS Global also indicates that labor income generated by employment across the unconventional energy supply chain will grow from \$41 billion to \$60 billion over the same time period. Congress should do everything possible to eliminate or at least mitigate barriers to natural gas development, production, and transportation wherever possible.

HR 2 includes several bills, including the following legislative measures supported by DCA:

- the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act (HR 1900) to modernize the review and approval process for natural gas pipeline permit applications;
- the North American Energy Infrastructure Act (HR 3301) to strengthen partnerships with Canada and Mexico in order to build a more secure and efficient North American energy market;
- the Domestic Prosperity and Global Freedom Act (HR 6) to expedite the export of U.S. liquefied natural gas to our allies;
- the Northern Route Approval Act (HR 3) to allows construction of the Keystone XL pipeline; and
- the Protecting States' Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act (HR 2728) to protect American energy production by recognizing states' authority to regulate hydraulic fracturing.

In 2013, DCA testified before the House Energy and Commerce Committee in support of the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act (HR 1900), which would require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve or deny natural gas pipeline permit applications within one year of receipt. This bill and others included in HR 2 would mitigate bureaucratic hurdles and open several doors to make the most of our natural energy resources.

DCA supports quick consideration of HR 2 and we thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Robert Darden  
Executive Vice President

cc: Rep. Kevin McCarthy, House Majority Leader  
cc: Rep. Fred Upton, Chairman, House Energy and Commerce Committee