

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Chair  
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and  
Public Works  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and  
Public Works  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

January 27, 2026

Dear Chair Capito and Ranking Member Whitehouse,

We submit this letter on behalf of a broad, bipartisan group of NGO and industry representatives to applaud you for focusing on permitting reform with your January 28 *Hearing to Examine the Federal Environmental Review and Permitting Processes, Part II*, and encourage the advancement of comprehensive permitting reform legislation during the 119th Congress. Our current permitting system creates too much uncertainty and unnecessary delays, extending permitting timelines far longer than is necessary to ensure the safe deployment of infrastructure and restoration projects. A more efficient permitting system will improve both economic and environmental outcomes, which is why there has been growing bipartisan support for action.

The 118th Congress's efforts on permitting reform proved the breadth of stakeholders and industries impacted by inefficiencies in America's existing regulatory framework for infrastructure of all kinds. The focus on permitting delays has only grown as greater demand for electricity threatens to push already elevated prices even higher. While all stakeholders may not agree on individual elements of a permitting package, we are united in the belief that durable, technology-neutral legislation must include a mixture of bipartisan priorities—these include but are not limited to National Environmental Policy Act reform, improved judicial review, project certainty, targeted reforms to enable linear infrastructure, geothermal parity with oil and gas, and more. Limiting political interference by codifying permitting certainty measures is a top bipartisan priority and a focus of stakeholders across all industry sectors.

Sound reforms will not only accelerate project deployment but also uphold our strong environmental standards, producing better outcomes for American businesses and communities alike. There will be profound energy affordability, national security, and environmental benefits associated with bipartisan, technology-neutral permitting reform. Our nation's aging infrastructure, growing restoration needs, and surging energy demands cannot wait until next Congress or beyond—we must let America build again.

We appreciate your leadership and encourage continued partnership with your colleagues in both chambers. We stand ready to work together toward the passage of meaningful, bipartisan permitting reform legislation.

Sincerely,

American Conservation Coalition Action  
American Council on Renewable Energy  
Billion Oyster Project  
Bipartisan Policy Center Action  
Breakthrough Institute  
C3 Solutions Action  
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions  
Chamber of Progress  
Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions  
Clean Energy Buyers Association  
ClearPath Action  
Dream.Org  
Ducks Unlimited  
Environmental Policy Innovation Center  
Foundation for American Innovation  
Geothermal Rising Action  
Inclusive Abundance Action  
Institute for Progress  
National Hydropower Association  
National Wildlife Federation  
Niskanen Center  
Securing America's Future Energy  
The Freshwater Trust  
The Nature Conservatory  
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
ThirdWay  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce