

It's Time to Strike a Deal on Permitting Reform

To Lower Energy Costs and Strengthen America's Grid

The Problem

Americans are facing rising energy demand and increasing pressure on reliability — all while families are feeling the strain of higher electricity bills. We need to build energy infrastructure faster and more efficiently to keep energy **affordable, reliable, and secure**.

The Opportunity

There is bipartisan interest in permitting reform, right now. Congress has a real opportunity to cut red tape so America can build the infrastructure we need for true energy dominance. Permitting reform will:

- Lower energy costs for families and businesses
- Strengthen grid reliability and security
- Make it easier to build energy infrastructure in the US
- Limit unnecessary delays and spurious lawsuits
- Unlock private investment and job creation

Please work with your colleagues to advance and pass a comprehensive, bipartisan permitting reform package this Congress.

Now is the time to strike a deal.

Seize the Moment

Citizens' Climate Lobby urges Congress to seize this moment.

We supported the Energy Permitting Reform Act in the last Congress, and continue to support a comprehensive, bipartisan permitting reform package that helps America build faster, lower costs, and strengthen reliability.

There is a deal to be made – and it should happen now.

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Comprehensive Bipartisan Permitting Reform Should Include:

Transmission Reform

Expanding and modernizing America's electric grid is essential to meet growing energy demand, strengthen reliability, and lower costs for consumers.

- **Use the proposal** by Sens. Hickenlooper and Padilla as a framework for bipartisan negotiation
- Holistic approach to grid modernization that includes provisions to boost **both** new transmission **and** upgrades to our existing system.

Building Faster

Lengthy and unpredictable permitting processes delay critical infrastructure and drive up costs.

- **Modernize NEPA processes** to reduce duplication and inefficiency
- **Expand categorical exclusions** for low-impact projects

Certainty

Developers across the energy spectrum need stable and predictable rules of the road. Frequent policy swings and project-by-project obstruction discourage investment and delay progress.

- Establish **clear, enforceable timelines** for federal reviews
- Establish that **agencies may not suspend project permits** or operations except in extreme circumstances

Community Engagement

Early and transparent engagement leads to better projects and fewer delays.

- **Encourage early consultation** with local communities and stakeholders
- **Increase transparency** in project planning and review
- **Reduce litigation risk** by resolving concerns upfront rather than in court

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