

April 13, 2021

Congressman Garrett Graves
2402 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Graves,

On behalf of Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA), I write to share our strong support for the Building U.S. Infrastructure through Limited Delays and Efficient Reviews (BUILDER) Act.

Founded in 2006, CEA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization advocating for balanced energy and environmental policies and responsible access to resources. CEA represents virtually every sector of the U.S. economy – from the iron and steel industry to truckers, airlines, agriculture, labor organizations, restaurants, chemical manufacturers, small businesses, and families all across the nation – that are concerned about U.S. energy policies, energy security and affordability, environmental stewardship, and long-term price and supply reliability. CEA has more than 550,000 individual members and almost 300 academic, non-profit, corporate, and union affiliates throughout the United States. Our members support a rational, all-of-the-above energy policy that utilizes all of our domestic natural resources – both traditional and renewable – while ensuring aggressive environmental protections and solutions are put in place.

In early 2020, the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) modernized outdated requirements in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This statute, which was enacted in 1970, was fostering uncertainty and hindering investment in both traditional and renewable energy projects as well as infrastructure projects. Without sacrificing the critical environmental protections ensured by NEPA, the updated regulations allowed for earlier engagement with public stakeholders and more transparency in the regulatory process that will benefit consumers and small businesses across the country. The BUILDER Act seeks to provide strengthen those much-needed improvements.

The BUILDER Act seeks to codify CEQ's NEPA updates that will create regulatory certainty and avoid burdensome delays and litigation. Large scale energy infrastructure projects require significant planning and capital investments. To reap the benefits of these infrastructure projects, the process must be clear, thorough, efficient, and consistent. Environmental reviews and public engagement are two important steps in the NEPA process. However, too often, these reviews are weaponized to kill projects across the country. This important legislation helps streamline processes to avoid these costly and project killing delays.



CEA applauds Congressman Graves for continuing to push for policies and regulatory improvements that will directly benefit the lives of families and small businesses across the country. CEA strongly supports the BUILDER Act and looks forward to working with Congressional leaders to advance this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Holt", is positioned above the typed name.

David Holt
President
Consumer Energy Alliance