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Toby Mack, President & CEO

January 20, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

EXPRESSING EEIA'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PERMITTING REFORM ACT (H.R.161)

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

I am writing to express the Energy Equipment & Infrastructure Alliance's (EEIA) strong support for the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act (H.R. 161).

EEIA represents equipment manufacturing and distribution companies, contractors, material suppliers, organized labor, and their trade organizations, that provide equipment, materials, services and workers to shale oil and gas exploration and production, transportation and processing--the shale energy supply chain.

America is going through a natural gas revolution. Shale energy is sparking a widespread boom in manufacturing, distribution and support of the capital equipment used in production, transportation and processing of natural gas, crude oil and other liquids, as well as in the construction of facilities and support infrastructure required by shale energy operations. Unfortunately, pipeline permitting delays cause inefficiencies, missed deadlines, and increased project costs while threatening jobs and economic growth.

H.R. 161 would streamline the natural gas pipeline permitting process, limiting unnecessary bureaucratic delay and red tape. Specifically, the legislation requires the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to render permitting decisions within one year of when they are received, and directs any and all relevant government agencies to issue the appropriate licenses and permits within 90 days of FERC's decision.

IHS Global Insight has estimated that between now and 2025, 47,000 miles of new pipelines will be built in the United States to connect increasing production of shale gas and oil to industrial and consumer end markets, representing \$100 billion investment. However, future economic activity isn't guaranteed and is, in fact, vulnerable to misguided government policies. H.R. 161 is commonsense legislation that will help ensure the continued growth and prosperity of an important and essential segment of the nation's economy.

EEIA strongly supports the H.R. 161 and urges bipartisan support when on the House floor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Toby Mack", written in a cursive style.

Toby Mack
President & CEO