



AMERICAN ENERGY AND MINERAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2026

Main Point: The U.S. has a growing gap between its surging energy demand and outdated infrastructure. **This bill directly addresses that gap by streamlining federal permitting procedures, reducing unnecessary litigation, preserving environmental protection, and averting political vetoes for all types of energy and mineral infrastructure.**

This Bill:

- Strengthens the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERCs) role as lead agency for interstate natural gas pipelines and LNG facilities by including the water quality review as a part of the FERC certification, incorporating state input, and preventing political vetoes by one state of a federally approved and permitted project.
- Ensures consistent evidence-based environmental decision-making.
- Expands the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) longstanding practice for issuing Nationwide Permits (NWP).
- Improves the "dredge and fill" permit process by eliminating duplicative review, avoiding baseless lawsuits, and establishing a longstanding NWP for linear infrastructure.
- Provides statutory clarification necessary to re-enable essential mining activities on federal lands.
- Clarifies the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by codifying scope of review to prevent boundless environmental analysis, clarify the procedural nature of the act, and establish meaningful judicial review provisions.

Background:

- China dominates as the global manufacturing superpower because of their rapid ability to scale infrastructure:
 - China now generates over double the electricity of the U.S.
 - China is the world's largest electricity producer, accounting for 1/3rd of global generation, and since 2000 China has increased their generation tenfold while U.S. generation remained flat
 - In 2010, China overtook the U.S. to become the world's largest manufacturer and by 2020, China manufacturing output nearly doubled that of the U.S.
- Due to our current permitting process and associated litigation, over 4,000 miles of pipeline projects to expand capacity and meet growing demand are on hold because of costs, time, and litigation risk tied to uncertainty.
- AI and electrification are creating unprecedented growth in power demand-- from 2010-2024 the U.S. saw 5% electricity demand growth, but from 2025-2034 the U.S. is expecting at least 52% growth.
- Global LNG demand growth is expected to increase from 57 bcf/d in 2025 to 90 Bcf/d in 2035; the U.S. needs permitting reform to capture this growth.