PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 25, 2024 CONTACT: Marnie Satterfield (202) 223-1420 msatterfield@ieca-us.org

IECA URGES FERC TO INITIATE INTERSTATE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE RATE CASES

WASHINGTON, DC – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) <u>sent a letter</u> to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on initiating more Section 5 rate cases.

Paul N. Cicio, President of IECA, made the following statement today:

Interstate natural gas pipelines are monopolies which make consumers highly vulnerable to billions of dollars in pipeline overcharges. In past years, FERC would initiate at least three rate cases or more. In 2023 and so far in 2024, FERC did not initiate a single rate case.

A 2023 study¹ released by the Natural Gas Supply Association analyzed the cost recovery of 20 major interstate pipeline companies. The study shows that from 2018 to 2022, the 20 pipelines were able to collect \$5.1 billion over that five-year period, more than they would have collected on an average 12% return on equity allowed by FERC. Despite this, FERC is failing to take legal action to rein them in.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.3 trillion in annual sales, over 12,000 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.9 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, consumer goods, building products, automotive, independent oil refining, and cement.

¹ "2023 Pipeline Cost Recovery Report," Natural Gas Supply Association, 2018-2022.