

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Marnie Satterfield
(202) 223-1420
msatterfield@ieca-us.org

49 CONSUMER ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT PERMITTING REFORM BILL TO BUILD MORE NATURAL GAS PIPELINES

WASHINGTON, DC – Forty-nine organizations sent a [letter](#) to the U.S. Senate urging them to pass permitting reform legislation during this Congress, which would increase the development of desperately needed natural gas pipeline capacity for reshoring manufacturing jobs and dispatchable power generation.

Paul N. Cicio, President of IECA, made the following statement today on behalf of the consumer organizations:

No one is more impacted by inadequate natural gas pipeline capacity than the manufacturing sector. Few natural gas pipelines are being planned and built. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports that pipeline capacity increases in 2022 were the lowest in history.¹ Under state end-use curtailment plans, when there is insufficient supply to serve the residential consumer, natural gas service to manufacturing companies is curtailed – that is, there is a mandatory reduction of natural gas supply.

The necessity of natural gas pipeline infrastructure to maintain the reliability of our electric grid is only growing. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), the organization charged with developing and enforcing reliability standards for the electric system, has repeatedly warned as much.²

¹ *The least U.S. interstate natural gas pipeline capacity on record was added in 2022*, U.S. Energy Information Administration, March 2, 2023, <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=55699>.

² *See, e.g., NERC, Long-Term Reliability Assessment*, at 12 (2023), https://www.nerc.com/pa/RAPA/ra/Reliability%20Assessments%20DL/NERC_LTRA_2023.pdf (“There is a need for dialogue among a broad group of stakeholders when policies and regulations have the potential to affect future electricity supplies, demand, and the development of electricity and natural gas resources and infrastructure.”); *NERC, Long-Term Reliability Assessment*, at 19 (Dec. 2022), https://www.nerc.com/pa/RAPA/ra/Reliability%20Assessments%20DL/NERC_LTRA_2022.pdf (“[A]dditional pipeline infrastructure is needed to reliably serve electric load”).