PRESS RELEASE

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72 MANUFACTURING ORGANIZATIONS URGE CONGRESS TO PASS ENERGY PERMITTING LEGISLATION THIS YEAR

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), along with 71 companies and organizations sent a <u>letter</u> to Congress asking to prioritize energy permitting reform legislation.

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

On behalf of the 72 organizations that have signed the letter, it is important for policymakers to understand that no one is more impacted by inadequate natural gas pipeline capacity than the manufacturing sector. When there is insufficient supply of natural gas, we are always the first to be curtailed. The frequency of curtailment rates is increasing annually and comes at significant costs and disruption to manufacturing supply chains, which also include materials for national security.

Manufacturing companies need more natural gas pipeline capacity to expand existing facilities, invest in new facilities, reshore, and create high paying middle class jobs.

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. One hundred percent of IECA members are manufacturing companies whose competitiveness is largely determined by the cost and reliability of natural gas and electricity. IECA's sole mission is to reduce and avoid energy costs and increase energy reliability through advocacy in Congress and regulatory agencies, such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). 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.