

January 9, 2015

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
436 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pompeo,

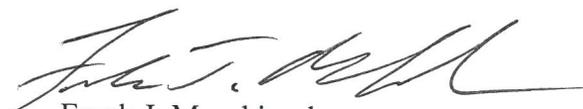
I write on behalf of America's Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA), to express our support for H.R. 161, *the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act*. Representing North America's leading independent natural gas exploration and production companies, ANGA works with industry, government, and customer stakeholders to ensure the continued availability of natural gas and to promote the increased use of this abundant domestic resource for a clean and secure energy future.

The safe and environmentally responsible development of our domestic supply of natural gas is an important component of America's energy supply and economic vitality. Affordable and abundant natural gas has led to record high levels of natural gas production and demand in the United States. However, without new pipeline capacity to transport natural gas to potential markets with the greatest demand needs, our nation will not be able to take full advantage of the economic, environmental and energy security benefits of natural gas.

H.R.161, *the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act*, addresses the important issues concerning the ability to build pipelines for the transmission and delivery of affordable, abundant, domestic natural gas to all markets. The current National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process lacks any real enforcement mechanism to ensure timely decisions by the appropriate permitting agencies. H.R. 161 helps to resolve this issue by creating firm and enforceable deadlines for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the permitting agencies, thus adding greater certainty and efficiency to the application process.

We look forward to continuing to work with you on this issue and urge your colleagues in the House of Representatives to support H.R. 161. Please do not hesitate to contact me if ANGA can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Macchiarola
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs