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January 28, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On June 5, 2013, I received a letter from your Department informing me that the implementation of Section 23 of the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (Act) would not be completed in the 18-month deadline required by the Act. Section 23 requires the issuance of regulations regarding previously untested natural gas transmission pipelines within various "High Consequence Area" classifications. I respectfully request an update on the rulemaking for Section 23, including the anticipated date for issuance of the final regulations associated with Section 23.

I share President Obama's stated commitment to modernizing the nation's regulatory process and removing unnecessary regulatory roadblocks. The implementation of Section 23 is critical to providing regulatory certainty for pipeline safety. It would be disappointing to allow uncertainty over pending regulations to stifle private sector investment and development of much-needed energy infrastructure.

I look forward to your prompt reply regarding this important issue. Should you have any questions, please have your staff contact Jason Knox with the Committee on Energy and Commerce at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,



Fred Upton
Chairman