

November 15, 2013

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
U. S. House of Representatives
107 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Pompeo:

On behalf of AGA and its members, I am writing to express our strong support for H.R. 1900, the “Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act.” The American Gas Association, founded in 1918, represents more than 200 local energy companies that deliver clean natural gas throughout the United States.

A critical element in our nation’s realization of the benefits of increased use of natural gas is the ability of our abundant natural gas resources to get to market. The nation’s 2.4 million miles of pipeline infrastructure is the envy of the world, and one of our nation’s most important energy assets. We must continue to invest in a safe and reliable natural gas infrastructure in order to extend the benefits of clean, affordable natural gas to more homes, businesses, and communities across the country.

The process for regulatory approval of interstate natural gas pipeline projects must be implemented in a timely and consistent manner in order to attract the investment necessary to maintain and grow our nation’s pipeline system. While the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has proven itself to be diligent and fair in processing applications for pipeline projects, it cannot control the actions of other Federal agencies in providing the myriad approvals associated with siting and constructing interstate natural gas pipeline infrastructure. We believe H.R. 1900 will give the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission additional tools to streamline the process for siting and approving interstate natural gas pipeline projects, thus helping to ensure that a robust natural gas infrastructure will help provide the benefits of abundant, clean, domestic natural gas resources to the American energy consumer.

AGA commends you for your leadership on this important bill, and we urge the House of Representatives to pass it.

Respectfully,

