

U.S. Senator Malcolm Wallop  
(1933-2011)  
*Founder*

George C. Landrith  
*President*



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October 29, 2013

The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gene Green  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Rep. Green:

We support the North American Energy Infrastructure Act and appreciate your efforts to bring fairness and transparency to the approval process for pipelines and electrical transmission lines that cross U.S. borders. The current system is far too ad hoc and is susceptible to far too many political games. In contrast, the North American Energy Infrastructure Act would create a clear, standardized and transparent approval process. This is something America desperately needs.

Energy is a key and basic building block of a strong and growing economy and to job and income growth. This is something all Americans want and hope to return to. Reliable and affordable energy is also a strong factor in national security considerations. Reform that removes autocratic and burdensome barriers and moves us towards attaining the goal of North American energy independence is welcome news. The rule of law is important to our organization and members and we see the implementation of fair and standardized approval processes for cross-border energy projects as a very positive development.

Our current system seems to favor never-ending delays and perpetual studies. The requirement that review decisions be made within reasonable time frames is critically important as our current system allows bureaucrats to study projects to death without ever making any serious attempt to come to a conclusion. This new process would bring certainty, transparency and predictability while maintaining important environmental protections and ensuring that the environment is protected. This is a win-win for America -- a clean environment and a strong economy.

This law will help our economy grow and stop us from sending our energy dollars to far away governments that are either unreliable or unfriendly to our national interests. Likewise, because it maintains environmental protections, no one can fairly or accurately argue that this law would harm the environment. Many of our members live in rural areas and are careful stewards of the land. They are mindful of the importance of clear air, water and land as many make their living by wise management of these resources. Their support for this law could not be stronger because they realize it strikes an excellent balance that protects the environment while strengthening both our economy and our national security interests.

We strongly recommend this legislation be passed out of committee with a favorable vote. We hope the House and Senate will pass it overwhelmingly and that the President will sign it. This is a timely and much needed piece of legislation that should be entirely bi-partisan as it is in every American's interest to have a strong economy fueled by affordable and reliable North American energy while at the same time maintaining needed environmental standards.

Thus, we wholeheartedly and enthusiastically support the North American Energy Infrastructure Act. We are happy to answer any questions you or your staff may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George Landrith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

George Landrith