

Contact:

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U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support H.R. 3301, the North American Energy Infrastructure Act. H.R. 3301 would replace the patchwork of Executive Orders that currently govern approvals of cross-border oil and gas pipelines and transmission lines with a more streamlined procedure that provides regulatory certainty while maintaining compliance with all existing energy and environmental laws.

Thanks to an abundance of natural resources, North America has become the one of the largest energy hubs in the world. For manufacturers, access to reliable, affordable, and secure North American energy can be a major competitive advantage. Presently, the flow of energy among the U.S., Canada and Mexico is governed by a patchwork of executive orders requiring the issuance of a Presidential Permit, a process fraught with delays that has proven highly unreliable. The Keystone XL Pipeline is the most visible example, but there are also five applications for transmission lines, two applications for natural gas pipelines and seven applications for oil pipelines all awaiting Presidential Permit decisions. Manufacturers are growing increasingly reluctant to invest in cross-border energy projects as a direct result of their lack of confidence in the Presidential Permitting process.

H.R. 3301 resolves these issues by replacing the Presidential Permit process with a more streamlined "certificate of crossing" requirement, which must be issued 120 days after all National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements have been met. H.R. 3301 requires the governing agency to issue the certificate of crossing unless it specifically finds that the project is not in the public interest. The bill also exempts modifications to existing cross-border energy projects from obtaining a new cross-border permit when one has already been issued. H.R. 3301 does not modify or even disrupt existing environmental laws and regulations and does not alter the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's authority under sections 3 and 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

Manufacturers support H.R. 3301 and policies that expand energy supplies and lower costs for U.S. consumers and manufacturers, which use nearly one-third of our nation's energy. Access to energy helps manufacturers compete in the global economy and

preserves high-paying jobs here at home. Manufacturers urge you to vote in favor of H.R. 3301.

Sincerely,