PRESS RELEASE

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MANUFACTURERS RAISE CONCERNS REGARDING FERC NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PERMITTING GUIDELINES

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) submitted <u>comments for the record</u> on the Senate Committee Energy and Natural Resources hearing entitled, "Review FERC's Recent Guidance on Natural Gas Pipelines."

Paul N. Cicio, President & CEO of IECA stated:

The new guidelines will make it increasingly more difficult, if not impossible, to permit new interstate natural gas pipelines. Without more pipeline capacity there is no natural gas or electric reliability. And without energy reliability, there is no national or economic security. The manufacturing sector needs confidence in the U.S.'s energy infrastructure reliability, not regulatory and reliability uncertainty.

Without increased pipeline capacity, our industries cannot grow. Manufacturers are facing regional shortfalls of natural gas pipeline capacity right now from South Carolina to Maine that are disrupting production, supply chains, increasing their costs, and shuttering investments and high paying middle class jobs.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.1 trillion in annual sales, over 11,700 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.8 million employees worldwide. It is an organization created to promote the interests of manufacturing companies through advocacy and collaboration for which the availability, use and cost of energy, power or feedstock play a significant role in their ability to compete in domestic and world markets. IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including: chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, building products, automotive, brewing, independent oil refining, and cement.