



PRESS RELEASE

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MANUFACTURERS URGE CONGRESS TO PROVIDE FERC WITH RETROACTIVE REFUND AUTHORITY WHEN CONSUMERS HAVE BEEN CHARGED INTERSTATE PIPELINE RATES THAT ARE NOT JUST AND REASONABLE

WASHINGTON, DC – The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) sent a [letter](#) to Congress to urge them to amend Section 5 of the Natural Gas Act as they consider comprehensive energy legislation.

Because Congress has not granted the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) the authority to require retroactive refunds associated with interstate natural gas pipeline rate over-charges which are not just and reasonable, there will not be any immediate rate reduction benefits to natural gas consumers due to the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. We urge you to address Section 5 of the Natural Gas Act and provide natural gas consumers with the same refund authority that currently exists for electric consumers.

While the Commission has recently issued an order at its March 15 meeting addressing this issue, consumers will still have missed out on the impact of lower taxes and will have been overcharged hundreds of millions of dollars. Each month that passes means that consumers fail to see the benefit of the new lower corporate tax rate in their natural gas rates.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.0 trillion in annual sales, over 3,400 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.7 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.