



Industrial Energy Consumers of America

The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers

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May 16, 2013

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

Re: H.R. 1900, the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act

Dear Representative Pompeo:

On behalf of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA), we support passage of H.R. 1900, the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act, and therefore are fully supportive of streamlining the permitting process and expediting approvals of natural gas pipeline projects.

Electric reliability is dependent upon natural gas pipeline capacity reliability. IECA is concerned about electric reliability due to potential natural gas pipeline capacity constraints and increased dependence on natural gas-fired power generation. The announced shut down of about 50 GW of coal and oil-fueled power generation units due to EPA regulations, and approximately \$100 billion in new natural gas driven industrial facilities, will place a lot of new demand on the existing pipeline infrastructure.

A recent study by the Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO) concluded that in the short term, more than 65 percent of the pipelines currently supplying gas into 13 Midwest states, have insufficient capacity to fully meet the needs of the existing generating units. Expediting permitting and approvals of natural gas pipeline projects is critical to maintaining electric and natural gas reliability.

Thank you for your leadership on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Cicio
President

cc: U.S. House of Representatives

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.3 trillion in annual sales, over 1,500 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: chemical, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, brewing, and cement.