



Industrial Energy Consumers of America

The Voice of the Industrial Energy Consumers

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July 28, 2020

The Honorable Jim McGovern
Chairman
Committee on Rules
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Committee on Rules
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Amendment to Division C of Rules, Committee Print 116-60, offered by Rep. Ocasio-Cortez of New York: Army Corp of Engineers, Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act

Dear Chairman McGovern and Ranking Member Cole:

On behalf of manufacturing companies nationwide who are 100 percent dependent upon natural gas from pipelines, we urge the House Committee on Rules to not support this Amendment which would prevent the Army Corps of Engineers from using any of its \$7.35 billion allocation to issue natural gas pipeline permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Without increased pipeline capacity, we cannot increase production of manufacturing products, many of which are being used to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The amendment would be profoundly disruptive at a very challenging economic time.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) member companies are manufacturing companies. 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.

We urge the Committee of jurisdiction to hold a hearing so that we can explain our dependence upon natural gas pipelines. It is vital to understand that a significant quantity of manufacturing production processes cannot operate using electricity alone, because it is either uneconomic or the technology does not exist. Importantly, there are already several locations in the U.S. where there are insufficient natural gas pipeline capacity which is prohibiting our ability to invest in and increase excellent paying middle class jobs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at 703-216-7402.

Sincerely,

Paul Cicio
President

cc: House Committee on Rules

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.1 trillion in annual sales, over 4,200 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.