

# Oppose Fast Tracking Pipelines and LNG

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie  
House Energy and Commerce  
Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
House Energy and Commerce  
Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 2051

Dear Chair Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone:

We write to express deep concern with Sections 41005 (Expedited Permitting) and Section 41006 (Carbon Dioxide, Hydrogen, and Petroleum Pipeline Permitting) in the recently released Energy & Commerce reconciliation package that would for the first time extend federal pipeline routing and eminent domain jurisdiction over carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>), crude oil, petroleum product, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) infrastructure. It would also allow pipeline companies to “elect” to fastrack federal permitting and force completion of all federal permits within one year unless extended to 18 months – but if they fail to do so for any reason their permits would be automatically granted in perpetuity. These measures would radically expand federal jurisdiction over all types of interstate pipelines, drastically limit public input, shorten environmental review timelines, and shield projects from legal challenges, all while clearing the way for expanded use of federal eminent domain against landowners.

Across the country, local opposition to CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> pipeline projects is broad and growing. Landowners have fought tooth and nail to stop use of state eminent domain for CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines, including by unelecting state representatives who supported CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline development, passing bans and moratoria, and enacting county setbacks and safety requirements. Communities have raised urgent concerns about the impacts of CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines and LNG export terminals on public health, drinking water, and long-term land use. Fast-tracking these developments would override local voices and deprive residents of a fair opportunity to evaluate the adverse economic, environmental, and safety consequences of pipeline construction and operation on their lands, families, livestock, businesses, and environments. Additionally, these provisions would shift significant costs onto consumers, resulting in higher energy bills, and burden taxpayers with the financial responsibility for emergency response and environmental cleanup in the event of a disaster.

These risks are especially serious for CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> pipelines, which involve emerging technologies and lack robust safety standards. CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline ruptures can create deadly

intoxication and asphyxiation hazards that complicate emergency response and could result in mass casualty events, while hydrogen's flammability and leak detection challenges pose unique dangers. The regulatory framework for both CO2 and H2 pipelines remains underdeveloped, making it even more irresponsible to fast-track their approval without strong, science-based oversight.

We urge you to reject these provisions in the bill. Permitting decisions must not be reduced to a transactional process that trades public safety and welfare for developer convenience. Congress must put the safety and welfare of landowners and communities above the tax credit driven profits of big corporate interests. New infrastructure should not be forced down the throats of landowners via eminent domain, and all landowners and communities deserve robust health, safety, and economic protections.

Sincerely,

Alaska Community Action on Toxics

Bayou City Waterkeeper

Better Path Coalition

Bold Alliance

Breathe Easy Susquehanna County

Bucks Environmental Action

California Communities Against Toxics

Central Jersey Coalition Against  
Endless War

Citizens Against Heartland  
Greenwashing Projects

Climate Justice Alliance

Climate Reality NEPA

Climate Reality Project Chicago Metro  
Chapter

Climate Reality Project Lehigh Valley  
Chapter

Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines

Community Energy reSource

Concerned Health Professionals of  
Pennsylvania

CURE

Dakota Resource Council

Dakota Rural Action

Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action

Delaware Riverkeeper Network

Divest NJ

DNC Council on the Environment and  
Climate Crisis

Earth Ethics. Inc.,

Eco-Justice Collaborative

Elders Climate Action

Environmental Law & Policy Center

Food & Water Watch

Fossil Free Tompkins

Fox Valley citizensfor peace & Justice

Healthy Gulf

Illinois People's Action

International Marine Mammal Project of  
Earth Island Institute

Iowa Citizens for Community  
Improvement

Iowa Unitarian Universalist  
Witness/Advocacy Network, IUUWAN

Micah Six Eight Mission

Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action

Montana Environmental Information  
Center

Native Organizers Alliance

NEPA Green Coalition

New Energy Economy

Nia Impact Capital

North American Climate, Conservation  
and Environment (NACCE)

Partnership for Policy Integrity

Pennsylvania Action on Climate

Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Pennsylvania

Physicians for Social Responsibility New  
York

Pipeline Awareness Network for the  
Northeast

Protect PT

Public Citizen

Public Goods Project

Resist the Pipeline

Sangamon Valley Sierra Club

Save Our Illinois Land

Science and Environmental Health  
Network

Science Roundtable on Carbon Capture  
and Storage

Sierra Club Illinois Chapter, Prairie

Silvix Resources

Sunflower Alliance

Sustainable Springfield, Inc

Turtle Island Restoration Network

Waterkeeper Alliance

WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Western Organization of Resource  
Councils

198 methods

350 Bay Area Action

350.org