The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

November 6, 2026

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned organizations represent critical sectors that underpin America's economic and national security. Together, we strongly urge you to swiftly consider and pass the **Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026** when Congress returns.

This bipartisan agreement was hard fought. Now it deserves action.

Few policies would do more to strengthen American competitiveness than comprehensive permitting reform. Whether America is trying to build new defense production facilities, grow power generation and transmission, or deliver other critical infrastructure, nearly everything our economy and national security needs begins with the ability to secure a permit.

Today, that process is broken, it takes too long, costs too much and produces too much uncertainty. That challenge reaches across virtually every sector represented by this coalition. It can take years just to secure a permit, and years more before a critical facility is actually built.

The economic consequences of delay are significant. OECD analysis has found that infrastructure costs can rise by approximately 40 percent during the gestation and permitting phase.

The Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act offers an opportunity to change that. It would give project developers greater confidence that they can receive timely, predictable decisions. This certainty will strengthen America's ability to build the energy and industrial capacity necessary to compete for decades to come.

The opportunity to achieve comprehensive, generational permitting reform comes at a critical geopolitical moment for the United States. Right now, we are competing to lead the next era of manufacturing, energy and technological development, against adversaries who do not play by the rules of a democratic, market economy. We cannot afford an antiquated permitting system that prevents America from turning investment announcements into completed projects.

Congress now has a rare bipartisan opportunity to deliver meaningful, durable reform.

This legislation could be among the most consequential economic and national security measures Congress passes this decade. We urge you to seize this moment, move the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act swiftly, and send a final bill to the President's desk.

Our organizations stand ready to work with you to get it done.

It is time to let America build again, for our future.

Sincerely,

Aerospace Industries Association
Aluminum Extruders Council
American Chemistry Council
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Institute of Steel Construction
American Iron and Steel Institute
American Petroleum Institute
The Fertilizer Institute
National Electrical Manufacturers Association
National Mining Association
National Steel Bridge Alliance
Steel Manufacturers Association