



July 31, 2024

The Honorable Joe Manchin III
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso:

On behalf of Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES), I write today in support of S. 4753, the *Energy Permitting and Reform Act of 2024*, and encourage the Senate to move it through the legislative process. CRES is a non-profit dedicated to supporting conservative solutions to address our nation's energy, economic and environmental security, while ensuring America retains its global competitive edge. We applaud Senators John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) and Joe Manchin (I-W.Va.) for their diligence and commitment to reforming our nation's broken permitting system through this bipartisan proposal.

S. 4753, *the Energy Permitting and Reform Act of 2024*, provides pragmatic policy solutions that seek to expedite permitting processes, reduce onerous regulations and mitigate serial litigation from extreme interest groups. This bill seeks to address many of the obstacles that slow our path to a more secure and clean American energy future. For example, the legislation:

- Expedites timelines while preserving stakeholder input.
- Streamlines right-of-way processes and prevents energy projects from entering an unnecessary jurisdictional limbo.
- Utilizes commonsense categorical exclusions for various energy technologies that will result in accelerated clean energy deployment and ensure continued environmental protection.
- Provides for a routine leasing cadence on federal areas to ensure the United States can access its abundant resources.
- Reduces obstacles to accessing domestic critical minerals vital to our clean energy future.
- Addresses issues that slow energy infrastructure development.

While a compromise in nature, the bipartisan legislation being considered today at the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is a meaningful step toward fixing many dysfunctional processes that are negatively impacting our ability to deploy critical energy projects across the nation. CRES looks forward to working together to advance permitting reforms that allow the United States to improve energy independence, reduce emissions and deploy clean energy.

CRES is proud to endorse the *Energy Permitting and Reform Act of 2024* and urges a vote in favor of the bill during markup in the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee.

Sincerely,

Heather Reams
President