



March 20, 2023

**NATIONAL
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ASSOCIATION**

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The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
Natural Resources Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva
Ranking Member
Natural Resources Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Grijalva:

Through this letter, the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) submits its support for the Lower Energy Costs Act (H.R.1), legislation that will promote American energy competitiveness, energy affordability, and national security.

Despite ever-increasing private and public investment in our nation's energy and infrastructure projects, a broken permitting process has plagued America's ability to realize its true potential and continues to stand in the way of energy and infrastructure progress. The Lower Energy Costs Act reforms NEPA for the 21st century and will usher-in a new era of American energy resource development. By setting reasonable limits to agency environmental review timelines and judicial reviews and establishing certainty in the energy leasing and permitting process, this legislation will create shovel-ready jobs in every state while maintaining robust environmental protections. Codifying these modernizations will bring a higher level of certainty to critical infrastructure projects, empower agencies to prioritize the most significant projects, and allow the federal government to better coordinate reviews across multiple agencies and stakeholders.

Importantly, this legislation represents a measured, "all of the above" approach to energy policy. By streamlining the permitting process, codifying revenue sharing parity provisions for offshore wind, and providing responsible mining access to the critical minerals required to develop the energy technologies of tomorrow, this bill will help ensure the United States has the resources it needs to be a secure, global leader for decades to come.

We appreciate the leadership of the Committee in advancing thoughtful energy policies that will position the United States to maintain its global competitiveness, support a high quality of life, and provide the affordable and reliable energy resources that Americans rely on.

NOIA and its members are available for follow-up questions or discussion, and will remain a resource for policymakers as Congress moves to legislate on these important issues.

Sincerely,

Erik G. Milito

cc: Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources