



STEEL MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION

November 20, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman
Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman and Ranking Member Huffman:

The Steel Manufacturers Association appreciates the opportunity to submit a statement for the record in support of the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development Act.

SMA is the voice of American steel. Our members operate across the country and range in size from America's largest publicly traded steel manufacturers to single facility, privately-owned family businesses, collectively accounting for more than 70 percent of domestic steel capacity. They make essential products for America's infrastructure, national security, technology, and energy sectors. Most importantly, they create well-paying, community-sustaining jobs.

Steel manufacturers are investing in America's communities, deploying \$25 billion in capital here in the U.S. to modernize, expand, and construct facilities; unfortunately, many of these investments are delayed by our nation's cumbersome permitting laws. The National Environmental Policy Act and other environmental statutes are routinely misconstrued and misused, making it difficult to complete economic development projects on time and on budget. We need to fix our broken permitting system—protecting the environment while enabling economic growth.

The bipartisan SPEED Act is critical to reorienting NEPA toward its intended purpose. Building on recent congressional efforts and U.S. Supreme Court decisions, the legislation reaffirms NEPA as a procedural tool for considering immediate environmental impacts of agency actions. Furthermore, it sets reasonable limitations on judicial review that will preclude interminable litigation while preserving the rights of relevant parties. SMA urges Members of Congress to vote yes on the SPEED Act and support commonsense permitting reforms that allow our members to protect the environment and create jobs.

Steel manufacturers are committed to responsible stewardship of our environment while furthering projects that promote economic growth and prosperity. SMA looks forward to working with the Committee and interested parties to advance the SPEED Act and commonsense permitting reforms. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brandon Farris
Vice President, Government Affairs
Steel Manufacturers Association