

December 9, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Transportation and Infrastructure
Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Transportation and Infrastructure
Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, and all members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

On behalf of the Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC), I write in support of legislation on the House floor this week¹ that will streamline the Clean Water Act (CWA) permitting process. Provisions of the Promoting Efficient Review for Modern Infrastructure for Today (PERMIT) Act (H.R. 3898)² will modernize the cumbersome federal permitting system and improve America's infrastructure, manufacturing, and energy dominance agenda.

Established in 1957, IEC is a trade association representing more than 4,100 members with 53 educational campuses and affiliate local chapters across the country. IEC is the nation's premier trade association representing America's independent electrical and systems contractors. In 2025, IEC will educate more than 20,000 electrical apprentices through world-class training programs. IEC advocates for a competitive environment benefiting merit shop contractors, their employees, customers, and taxpayers through the merit shop philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition, and economic opportunity for all.

IEC member contractors and their customers often face CWA permit requirements to build, maintain, and repair key infrastructure, power, and energy projects. However, flawed federal permitting programs—including those under the CWA—delay critical projects, stifle apprentice and journeymen job creation, and slow America's economic

¹ Approved by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee by a 34-30 vote on June 25, 2025.

² <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/3898>

growth.

For these reasons, IEC applauds House and committee leadership for advancing commonsense reforms to improve the CWA permitting process.

The PERMIT Act aims to improve transparency, reduce regulatory uncertainty, and ensure prompt decision-making. Streamlining the permitting process will accelerate construction of infrastructure projects and boost the economy by creating jobs for construction and manufacturing industries and power reliability for all.

IEC supports the PERMIT Act's inclusion of the Nationwide Permitting Improvement Act (H.R. 3927), introduced by Rep. David Rouzer (R-NC), because it creates a new category of nationwide permits for linear infrastructure projects that will speed the approval of infrastructure, power, and utility-based infrastructure while maintaining environmental impact safeguards needed to build infrastructure responsibly.

IEC appreciates PERMIT Act provisions clarifying and expediting judicial review timelines and enhancing coordination between federal and state agencies. These measures will significantly reduce delays and costs associated with advancing pipeline infrastructure projects subject to the CWA's regulatory framework.

IEC looks forward to working with Congress on advancing additional regulatory reforms and commonsense policies to deliver quality infrastructure, power, and energy infrastructure to America.

Sincerely,



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Federal Lobbyist
Independent Electrical Contractors
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