Power & Communication Contractors Association

September 15, 2025

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

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

Daniel Webster
Chair
Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dina Titus
Ranking Member
Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, Chair Webster, and Ranking Member Titus:

The Power & Communication Contractors Association (PCCA) writes in support of the bipartisan Promoting Innovation in Pipeline Efficiency and Safety (PIPES) Act of 2025 (H.R. 5301), introduced last week in the 119th Congress.[1]

PCCA represents contractors, manufacturers, and suppliers who build and repair America's power and communication infrastructure, including broadband and electric transmission, distribution, and substation facilities. PCCA members represent some 85% of the construction entities performing broadband deployment and the majority of electric power infrastructure projects across the United States. An unprecedented amount of underground fiber installation projects will break ground next year following the forthcoming release of $42.45 billion in broadband infrastructure funding through the Commerce Department's BEAD program.[2]

PCCA supports Section 18 of the PIPES Act of 2025 concerning Excavation Damage Prevention that will strengthen underground utility damage prevention laws by encouraging and endorsing state implementation of best practices championed by the excavation community to protect critical buried pipelines and utilities.

Accidental third-party underground utility strikes—including buried pipelines and electrical utilities—cost the U.S. economy at least $30 billion annually,[3] threaten America's energy infrastructure, disrupt local businesses and communities, and pose a serious safety threat to the environment and the public. The PIPES Act of 2025's

[1] https://transportation.house.gov/uploadedfiles/pipes_act_of_2025.pdf?utm_campaign=198440-345
[2] https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/broadband-equity-access-and-deployment-bead-program
[3] Data from the Common Ground Alliance, a non-profit organization leading efforts to reduce damages to underground utilities in North America through shared responsibility among all stakeholders. Visit www.commongroundalliance.com. See CGA's 2024 Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) Report: https://dirt.commongroundalliance.com/Portals/9/Common-Ground-Alliance-DIRT-Report-2024.pdf. Of note, PCCA is a member of CGA and the related Damage Prevention Action Center: https://damagepreventionactioncenter.com/

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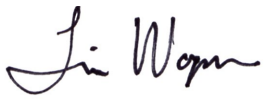
damage prevention and excavation safety provisions in Section 18 largely align with the recommendations made by the Infrastructure Protection Coalition's 2022 damage prevention study, 811 Emergency.[4]

The PIPES Act of 2025 has strong bipartisan support, and PCCA encourages Congress to pass this important legislation as soon as possible to advance the safety and integrity of our nation's energy infrastructure and underground utilities.

Sincerely,



Tim Wagner
President and CEO
Power & Communication Contractors Association

[4] https://www.ipcweb.org/images/reports/US-RPT.pdf. PCCA is a founding member of the Infrastructure Protection Coalition.