

November 19, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Democratic Leader Schumer:

The undersigned organizations represent a broad constituency of industries, companies, and labor unions who build and provide equipment, materials, supplies, services and human capital to energy infrastructure projects. Our broad group relies on that infrastructure to produce and deliver the energy that powers America.

We ask you to schedule floor votes as soon as possible to confirm new commissioners to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to fill current vacancies. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee recently cleared both a Republican and a Democratic nominee with bipartisan support, and their nominations now await a vote by the full Senate.

FERC plays a critical role in ensuring that Americans have access to reliable and affordable energy. The Commission reviews and permits certain new interstate infrastructure projects and expansions intended to modernize existing energy transportation systems. FERC also reviews and approves rates and services for interstate energy infrastructure companies. The COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized the importance of affordable and reliable energy, and energy infrastructure will play an essential role in supporting America's economic recovery.

Moving energy safely, reliably, and efficiently to where it is needed requires an innovative and highly interconnected transportation system. Modernizing and expanding America's energy infrastructure will bring investment and jobs to all corners of our country while also improving our environment. Energy infrastructure development delivers local opportunities—through wages paid to local workers, money spent at small businesses, and lower costs for families—and those benefits resonate across America.

Prospects for these opportunities become uncertain when seats on the Commission are left empty. FERC cannot approve new infrastructure, review rate or service proposals, or perform other key functions without a quorum. We ask that you support our efforts to create a modern, clean, reliable, and affordable energy system by filling the vacant seats on the Commission as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

American Chemistry Council

**American Council of Engineering
Companies**

American Forest & Paper Association

American Gas Association

American Iron and Steel Institute

American Petroleum Institute

**American Pipeline Contractors
Association**

American Public Gas Association

Association of Oil Pipe Lines

Consumer Energy Alliance

Distribution Contractors Association

Edison Electric Institute

Electricity Consumers Resource Council

**Energy Equipment and Infrastructure
Alliance**

GPA Midstream Association

**Independent Petroleum Association of
America**

Industrial Energy Consumers of America

**Interstate Natural Gas Association of
America**

**Laborers' International Union of North
America**

National Association of Manufacturers

National Utility Contractors Association

Plastics Pipe Institute

Portland Cement Association

Process Gas Consumers Group

U.S. Chamber of Commerce