

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Natural Resources**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 21, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-107, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Hoyer,

As plans are finalized to advance the National Defense Authorization Act and government funding legislation in the coming weeks, I write to respectfully highlight the request in the enclosed letter to exclude harmful permitting provisions from must-pass legislation this year. Once again, I greatly appreciate your comments that House leadership never agreed to include permitting legislation in any specific legislative vehicle, including must-pass government funding legislation, and thank you for your committed and ongoing leadership.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Chair  
Committee on Natural Resources

cc: The Honorable James E. Clyburn, U.S. House Majority Whip  
The Honorable Hakeem S. Jeffries, U.S. House Democratic Caucus Chair

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Natural Resources**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 12, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-107, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Hoyer:

The permitting and public notice and comment provisions mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) are among the only tools local communities have to force careful review of federal projects that may have serious, long-term, environmental, and public health consequences in those communities. Congress should continue to provide increased funding to assist federal agencies in completing the NEPA process but ***attempts to short-circuit or undermine the law in the name of “reform” must be opposed.***

According to media reports, there is agreement to advance a series of anti-environmental and anti-environmental justice provisions through the House, at the behest of the American Petroleum Institute (API). These destructive provisions will allow polluting manufacturing and energy development projects to be rushed through before the families who are forced to live near them are even aware of the plans.

The proposed legislation would restrict public access to the courts to seek remedies against illegal project development; place arbitrary limits on the amount of time the public is given to comment on polluting projects; and curtail public input, environmental review, and government accountability. Additionally, the API plan would require a certain number of harmful fossil fuel projects to be designated as “projects of strategic national importance” to receive priority federal support, assistance, and expedited environmental review. These permitting “reforms” would weaken other important public health protections, including the Clean Water Act and more.

We remain deeply concerned that these serious and detrimental permitting provisions will significantly and disproportionately impact low-income communities, indigenous communities, and communities of color. The inclusion of these provisions in a continuing resolution, or any other must-pass legislation, would silence the voices of frontline and environmental justice communities by insulating them from scrutiny. Such a move would force Members to choose between protecting EJ communities from further pollution or funding the government.

We urge you to ensure that these provisions are kept out of a continuing resolution or any other must-pass legislation this year.

Sincerely,



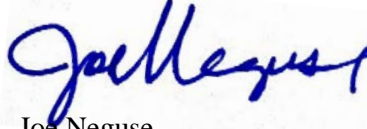
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Chair  
House Committee on Natural Resources



Jared Huffman  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife



Alan Lowenthal  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources



Joe Neguse  
Chair  
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests,  
and Public Lands



Katie Porter  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations



A. Donald McEachin  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
Member of Congress



Nydia Velázquez  
Member of Congress



Grace Napolitano  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Melanie A. Stansbury  
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



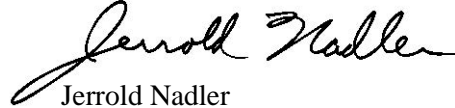
Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



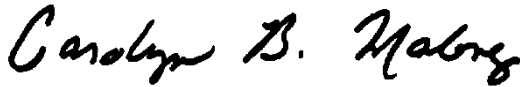
Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress



Michael F. Q. San Nicolas  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
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Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

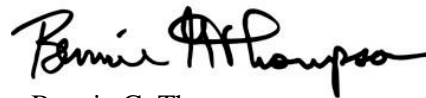


Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress

/s/ Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



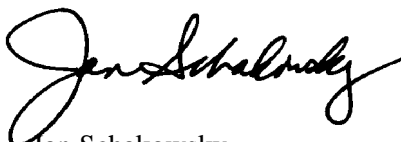
Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



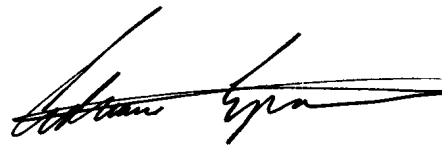
John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



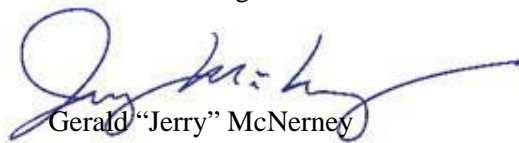
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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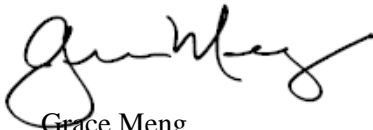
Jamie Raskin  
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Gerald "Jerry" McNerney  
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Grace Meng  
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Dwight Evans  
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Ayanna Pressley  
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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
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Nanette Díaz Barragán  
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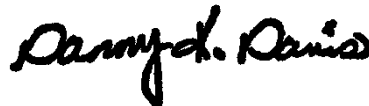
Yvette D. Clarke  
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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



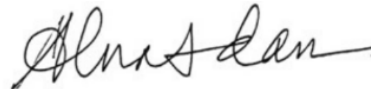
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



Alma Adams  
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
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Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



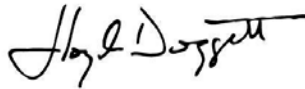
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress




Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Shontel Brown  
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



Andrew "Andy" Levin  
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



Cori Bush  
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Mondair Jones  
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Mary Gay Scanlon  
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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

/s/ André Carson  
Member of Congress

/s/ John Sarbanes  
Member of Congress

/s/ Hank Johnson  
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Ted W. Lieu  
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David Trone  
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Jackie Speier  
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