



July 14, 2020

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Chairman  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Walden:

On behalf of the American Gas Association (AGA), we applaud your Committee's consideration of H.R. 1426, the Timely Review of Infrastructure Act. With many American's currently facing unprecedented burden's due to the impact of COVID-19, the need for continuing the reliable delivery of natural gas to the frontlines and families that depend on their energy service is of the utmost importance. However, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is struggling to fully staff the engineers needed to complete the review of a growing number of important energy infrastructure projects.

H.R. 1426 is a technology neutral bill that would give FERC the flexibility to consult with the Office of Personnel Management and determine appropriate salaries to hire the staff they clearly need, allowing FERC to become more competitive in order to attract high quality talent for specialized energy jobs. With over 135 backlogged energy infrastructure projects across the country, the shortage of qualified candidates needed to review these projects is slowing the growth of the energy industry at a time when more American's are in their homes and critical services, like hospitals, need a consistent energy source.

AGA supports H.R. 1426, the Timely Review of Infrastructure Act, and urges the Committee to vote in favor of this important bill. We appreciate the work your Committee is doing to advance legislation that would modernize federal management and draw down the energy infrastructure project backlog.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Lowe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

George Lowe  
Vice President, Governmental Affairs and Public Policy

**George Lowe** *Vice President, Governmental Affairs and Public Policy*