



July 18, 2017

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Democratic Leader Pelosi:

The American Pipeline Contractors Association (APCA) represents construction firms, manufacturers, and distributors who build and maintain interstate pipeline systems. Every day, APCA members provide the manpower to build the infrastructure needed to deliver critical energy across the country. APCA supports the Promoting Cross-Border Energy Infrastructure Act (HR 2883), which would facilitate the often burdensome approval process for natural gas and oil pipelines that cross international borders.

The legislation would establish transparent, reliable procedures to provide regulatory certainty and enable the United States to further expand the mutually beneficial energy relationship with both Canada and Mexico. By streamlining the construction and operation of international border-crossing facilities used for the import and export of natural gas and oil, the U.S. can more efficiently trade energy products with neighboring allies.

Specifically, the bill would eliminate existing requirements that owners of cross-border pipelines obtain Presidential permits. Instead, HR 2883 would require those sponsors to obtain a certificate of crossing. Under the bill, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) would issue those certificates for oil and natural gas pipelines. The change in permitting requirements would apply to new projects and modifications of certain existing projects.

Natural gas will clearly play a critical role in meeting America's growing energy needs for generations to come. However, many parts of the country do not have the necessary pipeline infrastructure to meet the rising demand, making the need to expand our natural gas pipeline infrastructure more important than ever, including cross-border pipeline infrastructure. Important pipeline projects are often delayed with extended reviews of permit applications. Permitting reform is needed for pipelines throughout the U.S. as well as into and from Canada and Mexico.

APCA strongly supports House passage of HR 2883, and we thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

William Schettine
President