Unlocking Clean Energy to Reduce Emissions

The Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA) would build out the electricity grid to connect clean energy faster and reduce emissions from the power sector.

Clean energy resources are typically the fastest and cheapest new electricity supply to build, and the grid must have available capacity to transport this supply to American homes and businesses.

BAAJA acts on the grid bottleneck, **not through subsidies**, but with near-term regulatory reforms to quickly connect clean projects waiting to plug in as well as long-term reforms to hasten the construction of transmission lines needed to carry that carbon emissions-free power across the country.

Without BAAJA,

more than 85%

of power projects delayed from connecting to the grid in 2025 were solar, wind, and storage.

BAAJA will spur transmission buildout needed to enable

more than 80%

of the emissions cuts that the U.S. could achieve by the 2030s.

Enacting permitting and transmission reform could reduce

~76 million metric tons annually

of carbon pollution from the power sector from 2030-2035.*

BAAJA would deploy clean energy to reduce U.S. carbon emissions

OUTCOME	NEAR TERM	LONGER TERM
Deployment	Faster grid interconnection and transmission line upgrades bring renewable resources online (Sec. 2102, 2109, 2110, 2111).	Transmission lines between regions connect the strongest solar, wind, geothermal, and hydro resources (Sec. 2101, 2103).
Emissions	Deploying low-cost clean power helps displace natural gas and coal generation; ~93% of recent additions to the grid were clean (Sec. 2110, 2111).	Transmission reforms could cut ~6.5 billion tons of climate pollution through 2050, with net reductions in every scenario (Sec. 2101, 2103, 2106).
Clean energy buying	Hastens delivery of clean energy to large buyers; improves permit certainty within nine months of enactment (Sec. 1401, 2201).	Sets fixed, upfront interconnection costs by area; access to stronger renewable resources reduces power costs (Sec. 2106).
Durability	Issued permits cannot be revoked and lawsuits face 150-day windows, keeping 400+ gigawatts of solar and wind resources in play and saving households and businesses $120 billion over the next seven years (Sec. 1401, 2201).	Enforceable review deadlines and technology-neutral protections that outlast administrations (Sec. 1106, 1402).

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Sources: Senate draft bill (KAT26642); NERA analysis on behalf of CEBA, June 2026; LBNL, Queued Up: 2026 Edition, May 2026; Princeton REPEAT Project, August 2022; Third Way, "Quantifying the Emissions Impacts of the Energy Permitting Reform Act of 2024," September 2024; The Ecomodernist, "Permitting Reform Unlocks More Clean Energy Than Trump Blocks," October 2026; Bipartisan Policy Center BAAJA explainer, October 2026; Grid Strategies, "MISO Shows Value of Interregional Transmission with Record Imports during Heat Wave," July 21, 2026; C2ES and Greenline Insights, "Grid and Economic Impacts of Interconnection Queue Reform and Interregional Transmission Expansion," September 2026.

*Private analysis conducted for CEBA, March 2026. No modeling of the 2026 bill text has been published yet.