



October 21, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Passage of the Bipartisan American Affordability Jobs Act in the 119th Congress

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of the undersigned clean energy trade associations, representing the companies that build, operate, and finance America's solar, energy storage, wind, and transmission infrastructure, we write in strong support of the *Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act* (BAAJA). We urge you to pass this bill before the 119th Congress adjourns.

BAAJA represents substantial positive reforms to our permitting system, maintaining high environmental standards while providing clear rules for getting energy infrastructure built. BAAJA would help significantly increase clean energy deployment and expands our transmission network to deliver new, affordable, and reliable electricity to the homes and businesses that rely on it.

Transmission

The transmission provisions in BAAJA are essential to deploying more clean energy, putting more electrons on the grid to lower overall system costs. Today, thousands of gigawatts of clean energy are waiting in interconnection queues across the country, and many projects will not be built without new lines to carry that power. Insufficient transmission strands low-cost generation leaves the grid more vulnerable to extreme weather and spikes in demand, and raises costs for consumers.

Modeling of BAAJA's impacts indicates it would enable a major buildout of transmission over the coming years, roughly doubling interregional transfer capacity. A stronger, more connected grid lets clean power move from where it is produced to where it is needed, improves reliability across regions, and reduces the cost of serving new demand.

We urge Congress to pass the robust transmission provisions at the center of the bill, including:

- **Faster permitting for transmission lines.** Clear timelines and coordinated federal reviews so high-voltage lines are not stuck in review for a decade.
- **Interregional planning and capacity.** Planning that connects regions, so that surplus clean power in one area can serve demand in another.

- **Siting and cost allocation that work.** Clear, fair rules on who builds and who pays, so that needed projects can move forward without years of disputes.
- **Upgrading existing lines.** Cutting red tape for deploying cost-effective transmission technologies that can increase power line capacity by more than 20%.
- **Faster interconnection.** Transformational reforms that help ready-to-build generation and storage projects connect to the grid more quickly through faster studies and early cost certainty.

Permit Certainty and Enforceable Timelines

The permit certainty provisions in this bill would lower financing costs, accelerate construction, and protect projects that are already moving forward. Companies cannot commit to investing billions of dollars in a project if federal reviews can be delayed indefinitely or approvals can be paused or revoked after issuance. Over the past year, our industries experienced this firsthand. The Department of the Interior's July 2025 memo subjected nearly 70 categories of routine solar and wind permitting actions to Secretary-level review, creating a near-moratorium that reached even projects on private land. A federal court has since enjoined that policy, but a court order is temporary.

BAAJA would ensure that a lawfully issued permit is a permit, regardless of which administration is in office. Paired with clear, enforceable timelines for federal reviews and prompt resolution of legal challenges, the law would provide the durable certainty that investors and lenders require to finance energy infrastructure.

We urge you to preserve and, where possible, without threatening the overall package, clarify these protections.

Technology Neutrality

BAAJA ensures that technology neutrality is a durable principle of federal permitting law while maintaining responsible environmental review standards. Federal permitting should not pick winners and losers. Every energy resource should meet responsible environmental standards and undergo rigorous reviews and consultations, while having the same access to federal lands, tools, and databases. A technology-neutral framework gives grid operators and utilities the full range of resources to keep power reliable and affordable, and it ensures that the fastest, lowest-cost resources are not held back by policies that single them out. A technology neutral approach also stops the whiplash from administration to administration that undermines business certainty and stifles needed investment.

After 20 years of flat electricity demand, the U.S. is facing a nearly unprecedented forecast increase of up to 166 GW before 2029. Meanwhile, more than 350 GW of clean energy is ready to be deployed – with 100 GW stalled in the permitting process, 50 GW held up with regulatory uncertainty, and another 200 GW that needs new transmission. Electricity rates have outpaced inflation since 2021, with an average residential price increase of 10.5% in 2025. Based on current market dynamics, clean energy resources are poised to meet the lion's share of this demand quickly and affordably—if the playing field is even.

The Time To Act Is Now

Negotiators in both parties have done the hard work to reach a bipartisan agreement. If this Congress adjourns without passing it, that work starts over with new members, new committee dynamics, and a

new calendar. They would also still face the need to strike a deal acceptable to the Administration. Projects, jobs, and investment in communities across the country cannot wait another year or more. Every month of delay means higher costs for American families and businesses.

We urge you to pass the *Bipartisan American Affordability Jobs Act* before the end of this Congress. Our associations and member companies stand ready to work with you to get it done.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ACORE

Advanced Energy United

American Clean Power Association

Corporate Energy Buyers Association (CEBA)

Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)