



December 3, 2015

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan,

The Plastics Pipe Institute (PPI) promotes the use of plastic pressure pipe made of high-density polyethylene, polyamide, composite piping included in the gas distribution and oil and gas gathering market. PPI/EPSP strongly supports the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act (HR 8) which would implement necessary steps to streamline the currently sluggish process subject to natural gas pipeline permit applications.

The shale energy revolution continues to serve as a key economic driver. According to IHS Global Insight, it is estimated that between now and 2025, 47,000 miles of new pipelines will be built to connect shale gas and oil to industrial and consumer markets in the U.S. Additionally, a 2014 report by the INGAA Foundation indicates that almost 14,000 miles of new gas gathering and 7,800 oil gathering lines will be needed every year, requiring an investment of approximately \$3 billion per year.

Despite the growing need to expand the nation's pipeline network in order to meet our energy needs, pipeline projects around the country are often delayed over extended reviews while acquiring the necessary permits from various federal and state agencies. PPI has supported previous legislation such as HR 161 and HR 2995 that would expedite the permitting process for natural gas pipelines located on federal lands and other areas subject to federal and state-level permit reviews.

HR 8 would include important language that would streamline the natural gas permitting process, and we look forward to seeing the legislation pass the House of Representatives in the near future. We thank you for your continued leadership on this important issue.

Best Regards,

Randall Knapp, Director of Engineering
PPI Energy Piping Systems Division