

Energy Supply Chain Workers and Industries Urge Immediate Senate Vote on FERC Nominees

July 11, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leaders McConnell and Schumer,

The undersigned organizations, representing the energy infrastructure construction supply chain, and its workers and their families, urge you to take immediate action to effect Senate confirmation of the current nominees to positions as Commissioners of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The present lack of a FERC quorum is unnecessarily delaying vitally needed energy infrastructure projects, and is threatening jobs, investments, economic growth, America's environment and our energy security.

This situation has denied employment to over 50,000 construction workers, and thousands more who manufacture and supply the steel, equipment, concrete and aggregates, components and services these projects require. It has stranded hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of capital investment already made or pending, much of which by small businesses, to prepare the equipment and the support these projects' construction requires.

Lack of quorum has also raised energy costs to consumers, manufacturers and other businesses because of the restricted supplies of natural gas these delayed projects would alleviate. Finally, it has blocked or slowed transition to cleaner-burning fuel for power generation, and impaired the ability to incorporate renewables into the electric grid.

The above applies to infrastructure projects that have already successfully completed their required FERC staff reviews and are awaiting a Commission vote. Their construction would be well underway now but for lack of a FERC quorum. More troubling is the fact that several more critically needed major projects face similar delays as they too are well along in the FERC review process. Were this situation to persist because of lack of Senate action, these projects would also be jeopardized and the impacts to workers, businesses, communities and consumers mentioned above would be greatly magnified.

We urge you to allocate time on the Senate calendar for action on FERC Commissioner nominees at the earliest possible opportunity. Tens of thousands of workers' jobs and their families' well-being, along with benefits to consumers, industry and the environment, of adequate supplies of clean-burning, affordable and reliable natural gas, are dependent on your action.

Sincerely,



Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance
Toby Mack, President & CEO



American Council of Engineering Companies
David A. Raymond, President & CEO



American Iron and Steel Institute
Thomas J. Gibson, President & CEO



American Pipeline Contractors Association
J. D. Lormand, Executive Director



American Rental Association
Tony Conant, Chief Executive Officer



American Supply Association
Michael Adelizzi, Executive Vice President



Associated Equipment Distributors
Brian P. McGuire, President & CEO



Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Dennis Slater, President & CEO



Associated General Contractors of America
Stephen Sandherr, Chief Executive Officer



Distribution Contractors Association
Robert Darden, Executive Vice President



Darrell K. Smith

Industrial Minerals Association - North America
Darrell Smith, Executive Vice President



International Union of Operating Engineers
James T. Callahan, General President



The INGAA Foundation, Inc.

Donald F. Santa

The INGAA Foundation, Inc.
Donald F. Santa, President & CEO

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International
Union of
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Terry O'Sullivan

Laborers' International Union of North America
Terry O'Sullivan, General President



Liz Richards

Material Handling Equipment Distributors Association
Liz Richards, Executive Vice President



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M. Robert Weidner III

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M. Robert Weidner III, President & CEO



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ACCESSORIES DISTRIBUTION

Joseph M. Thompson

The Association for Hose and Accessory Distribution
Joseph M. Thompson, Executive Vice President



Natural Gas Supply Association

Natural Gas Supply Association
Dena E. Wiggins, President & CEO



Darrell K. Smith

National Industrial Sand Association
Darrell Smith, Executive Vice President

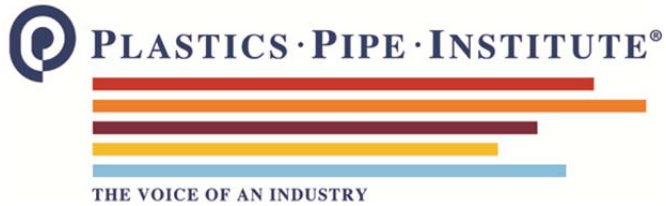


National Utility Contractors Association
Bill Hillman, Chief Executive Officer



Robert G. Garbini

National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
Robert G. Garbini, President & CEO



Tony Radoszewski

Plastics Pipe Institute
Tony Radoszewski, President



Power & Communications Contractors Association
Tim Wagner, Executive Vice President



United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices
of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry
Mark McManus, General President