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July 22, 2021

The Honorable Joe Manchin Chairman Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Manchin:

The American Petroleum Institute (API), with 600 members representing all facets of the natural gas and oil industry, writes to congratulate you on passage of the *Energy Infrastructure Act* in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee last week. API supports investment in the energy infrastructure of the United States, in order to deploy new and innovative technologies, update existing infrastructure to be reliable and resilient, and secure energy infrastructure against physical and cyber threats.

The challenge of meeting the world's growing need for energy while simultaneously ushering in a lower-carbon future is massive, intertwined and fundamental. It is the opportunity of our time – indeed, governments, industries, and consumers must rise to seize it together.

The natural gas and oil industry is essential to supplying energy that makes life modern, healthier and better — while doing so in ways that address the climate challenge: lowering emissions, increasing efficiency, advancing technological innovation, building modern infrastructure and more. Meeting this challenge requires new approaches, new partners, new policies and continuous innovation — a path your bill lays out and one which API supports.

The *Energy Infrastructure Act* aligns with key principles set forth in API's Climate Action Framework, including the acceleration of technology and innovation to reduce emissions while meeting growing energy needs, further mitigation of methane emissions to advance environmental progress, and advancement of cleaner fuels to provide lower-carbon choices for consumers.

Specifically, API supports the provisions of the Energy Infrastructure Act pertaining to:

Carbon capture, utilization, storage (CCUS), and transportation infrastructure necessary to capture difficult to reduce emissions from essential industrial operations. CCUS policies must be flexible to allow for the utilization of as many CCUS methods as possible. Large-scale deployment of CCUS projects and associated transport infrastructure is critical for achieving mid-century climate goals and will support economic development, technological innovation, and good paying jobs.

Hydrogen research and development to accelerate research, development, and deployment of hydrogen from clean energy sources. Hydrogen is increasingly recognized as a valuable pathway for meeting ambitious climate goals — particularly in reducing emissions from hard-to-abate sectors. Expanding the role of hydrogen in decarbonization requires cost-effective production of low-carbon hydrogen from all sources. Today, most hydrogen is produced with natural gas, which, if paired with CCUS, offers a promising and scalable low-carbon fuel source.

Orphaned well site plugging, remediation, and restoration to help address energy infrastructure, largely left decades ago by now extinct companies. API and our members are committed to responsible energy development all the way to restoration of the sites involved in their operations. Addressing legacy orphan well sites helps improve safety, decrease emissions, and can create good paying jobs.

We want to thank you and your Committee for advancing this important, common-sense legislation to address the climate challenge in a manner that supports innovation, good jobs, and a strong economy.

API stands ready to support you and your committee members as this process unfolds, and we commend your continued leadership and efforts to both strengthen our nation's critical energy infrastructure while simultaneously advancing thoughtful policies to address the risks of climate change.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Sommers

President & CEO