



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Industry and Labor Alliance Call for Permitting Reform to Support American Manufacturing and Workers

WASHINGTON (June 14, 2023) – The chemical industry and leading national labor unions [released a resolution today](#) encouraging policymakers to do more to improve the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) inefficient and outdated permitting process. The resolution was developed through the [Chemical Industry Labor Management Committee \(CILMC\)](#), which is comprised of eight trustee organizations, co-chaired by the [American Chemistry Council \(ACC\)](#) and [North America’s Building Trades Unions \(NABTU\)](#).

As part of the recent debt ceiling package, Congress passed and the President signed bipartisan legislation that contains some helpful permit reforms, but lawmakers must do more. Specifically, the group is calling on policymakers to adopt reforms that will streamline the permitting process used by EPA to review and approve new energy production, energy infrastructure, and manufacturing projects.

“We applaud Congress and the Biden administration for adopting permitting reform provisions as part of the bipartisan agreement to raise the nation’s debt ceiling limit,” said Chris Jahn, president and CEO of ACC. “More reforms are needed if our nation wants to ensure a reliable and resilient energy delivery system, secure supply chains, diverse energy sources and technologies, and a competitive and innovative manufacturing sector. We urge Congress and the Administration to double down on improving the permitting process to help grow American manufacturing and strengthen U.S. competitiveness over countries such as China.”

“The permitting reform provisions signed into law by President Biden are a welcome sight for NABTU and our over 3 million members,” said Sean McGarvey, president of NABTU. “The pre-existing flaws in America’s permitting process created, in many cases, unnecessary delays that had direct and dire impacts on the economic wellbeing of our rank-and-file membership. With our country’s energy future depending on both fossil fuels and renewables, having a system in place that encourages more timely review and project certainty is pivotal to creating more middle class, family-sustaining careers in union construction.”

The CILMC is a unique partnership between the chemical industry and organized labor. The Committee advocates for public policies that will grow the U.S. chemical sector and create more, well-paying middle-class jobs for skilled construction trades workers.

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American Chemistry Council (ACC)

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the multibillion-dollar business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products, technologies and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health, safety and security performance through Responsible Care®; common sense advocacy addressing major public policy issues; and health and environmental research and product testing. ACC members and chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development, and are advancing products, processes and technologies to address climate change, enhance air and water quality, and progress toward a more sustainable, circular economy.

North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU)

North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) is an alliance of 14 national and international unions in the building and construction industry that collectively represent over 3 million skilled craft professionals in the United States and Canada. Each year, our unions and signatory contractor partners invest almost \$2 billion in private-sector money to fund and operate over 1,900 apprenticeship training and education facilities across North America that produce the safest, most highly trained, and productive skilled craft workers found anywhere in the world. NABTU is dedicated to creating economic security and employment opportunities for its construction workers by safeguarding wage and benefits standards, promoting responsible private capital investments, investing in renowned apprenticeship and training, and creating more construction career pathways to the middle class for women, communities of color, indigenous people, veterans, and the justice-involved. For more information, please visit nabtu.org