

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2322A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Chair Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone,

On behalf of our millions of members, we urge you to reject the extreme proposal by the Energy and Commerce Committee to meet House leadership's reconciliation targets. In addition to wide-ranging cuts to Medicaid for some of the most vulnerable Americans, it fulfills a polluter's wishlist of rollbacks of environmental programs that protect communities and public health, all while bending over backwards to create new giveaways for the oil and gas industry.

The text continues the White House's obsession with dismantling the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), attempting to rescind funding from a host of high-impact programs that lower energy bills for hard working Americans, reduce air pollution in schools, modernize our nation's ports and upgrade old diesel engines, revitalize American industrial manufacturing, and create economic opportunity in frontline communities. Even worse, the text would dismantle the government's ability to administer and oversee the use of IRA funds that the federal government has already obligated in a misguided effort to unravel the law in its entirety. In practice, these shortsighted repeals would undermine Federal agencies' ability to properly manage public investments that the government has already made.

The Energy and Commerce proposal also takes a number of anti-environmental deregulatory actions, in addition to defunding IRA programs. The text repeals existing fuel efficiency and air pollution standards, forcing Americans to breathe dirtier air, jeopardizing new clean vehicle manufacturing jobs in the United States and ceding global leadership of the auto industry of the future, and providing drivers fewer vehicle choices. In short, the public will be left paying more in gas (and gas taxes) with less fuel-efficient vehicles, making the everyday American foot the bill for tax breaks for the wealthy and giveaways to Big Oil.

Instead of working toward addressing environmental harms and helping communities prosper, the Energy and Commerce proposal doubles down on fossil fuel giveaways. The bill lets major fossil fuel infrastructure projects – such as cross-border pipelines and liquefied natural gas export terminals – simply pay a fee to be approved, to bypass permitting and other legally-required analyses altogether, and to protect them from lawsuits, allowing powerful corporations to run roughshod over local communities. Even more astonishingly, if, even after all these sweetheart exemptions from the

standard permitting and judicial review processes, a project runs afoul of the law, the legislation offers fossil fuel and nuclear companies – and only them – taxpayer money as “compensation.”

Nearly every component of the House’s reconciliation bill revealed so far has included attacks on the environment, and the Energy and Commerce Committee’s proposal is no different. Please vote “no” on this radical proposal that would harm the health and welfare of the American people.

Sincerely,

Climate Action Campaign

Climate Power

Earthjustice

Evergreen Action

League of Conservation Voters

Natural Resources Defense Council

Sierra Club

Union of Concerned Scientists