

**The Spur Permitting of Underdeveloped Resources (SPUR) Act would expedite permitting, increase American energy production, and enhance our energy security.**

## **Title I** Energy

### **Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing**

- Mandate that the Secretary of the Interior resume onshore quarterly lease sales
- Ensure onshore quarterly lease sales include a broad cross-section of land and timely leasing of parcels
- Protect leases from cancellation and insulate permitting process from litigation

### **Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing**

- Require the Secretary to approve a final 2023-2028 offshore leasing plan by September 30, 2023 that includes no fewer than 11 lease sales in the Central and Western Gulf of Mexico and offshore Alaska
- Require the Secretary to begin preparing the 2029-2034 offshore leasing plan three years after the first lease sale is conducted under the 2023-2028 plan
- Require that each subsequent five-year leasing plan include no fewer than 5 lease sales
- Protect leases from cancellation and insulate permitting process from litigation
- Does not affect the Eastern Gulf of Mexico (Florida)

### **Onshore Oil and Gas Permitting**

- Extend the validity of approved permits to drill (APDs) from two years to four years
- Authorize the Secretary to delegate permitting and enforcement authority on federal lands to the state within which the federal lands are located under certain conditions
- Exempt operations on state and private surface from federal permitting if the federal government holds less than a 50% interest in the subsurface mineral estate

### **Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Permitting**

- Require the Secretary of Energy to issue a final decision on an application to build/expand an LNG export facility within 45 days of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) or Maritime Administration (MARAD) approval
- Deem approved an application for which the Secretary of Energy fails to issue final decision within 45 days of FERC or MARAD approving the project
- Provide expedited judicial review of litigation challenging the approval of an LNG export project

## **Title II** Minerals

### **Federal Land Use Improvements**

- Require Congress to pass a resolution of approval in order for the Secretary of the Interior's mineral withdrawals in excess of 5,000 acres to take effect
- Prohibit the Secretary from imposing a moratorium on issuing leases, claims, or permits for mining on federal lands
- Prohibit the rescission of any leases, permits, or claims for mining on federal lands
- Require a review of the minerals present on federal lands in updates of land use plans

### **Coal Leasing**

- Lift the 2016 leasing moratorium for thermal coal
- Direct the Secretary to offer lands for coal leasing within 90 days of a request by an applicant and require the fair market value assessment to be completed within 45 days

### **Critical Mineral Designation Criteria**

- Make uranium eligible to be a critical mineral
- Direct the U.S. Geological Survey to consider projected declines in U.S. production of a mineral when evaluating whether a mineral should be considered a "critical mineral"

### **Mineral Permitting**

- Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), require an environmental impact statement to be completed within 2 years and an environmental assessment to be completed within 1 year for mineral projects
- Require lawsuits against permits and licenses for mining projects to be filed within 60 days

## **Title III** Transmission and Pipelines

- Require FERC to better protect the adequacy, affordability, reliability, and security of the supply and delivery of electricity and natural gas
- Prevent the administration from blocking cross-border pipelines and electric transmission lines
- Increase certainty in the permitting process for natural gas pipelines and electric transmission lines
- Expand opportunities for hydropower projects licensed before March 13, 2020

## **Title IV** Other Natural Resources

- Stop the Bureau of Land Management rule that would severely restrict public access to federal lands
- Overturn a Ninth Circuit decision that stops important wildfire reduction and forest management projects
- Extend and expedite grazing permits

# RESTART Act

Revitalizing the Economy by Simplifying Timelines and Assuring Regulatory Transparency Act



**U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE on  
ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC WORKS**  
RANKING MEMBER SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

Commonsense permitting and project review reforms to **build in America, lower prices, and protect the environment**

## Modernizing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Implements **strict deadlines** for agencies to complete necessary project review documents, including environmental assessments and environmental impact statements
- **Allows projects to advance if an agency misses a deadline** without threat of judicial review
- Requires agencies to prepare a single environmental review document with **page limits**, and designates a process for determining when NEPA applies
- Establishes time limits to **prevent endless legal battles**, requiring courts to process NEPA challenges and issue a final judgment within 180 days
- Enacts a **stricter statute of limitations** for filing court challenges to NEPA documents, and instructs courts to **set deadlines for agency action**

## Clean Water Act Certifications, Defining Navigable Waters, Nationwide Permits

- **Prevents projects from being unreasonably blocked** by states that delay or deny issuing Section 401 Certifications under the Clean Water Act
- Defines a **“water of the United States,”** and sets the bounds for when dredge and fill or discharge permits are required under the Clean Water Act
- Codifies **Nationwide Permits** issued in 2021 for development of critical energy projects
- **Prohibits retroactive vetoes** of dredge and fill permits
- Expands available approval term of state discharge permit programs from 5 to 10 years

## Other Key EPW Provisions

- Shortens timelines for consultations under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), makes process **more efficient**, and allows states to take over administration of consultations
- Applies Clean Air Act policy review process to legislation, not projects or regulations
- Streamlines state primacy applications for **Class VI wells** that are used to store carbon dioxide
- **Prohibits use of the "social cost of greenhouse gases"** for regulations, guidance, or agency action if the use of the metrics increases the cost of energy or causes agency delays
- Expedites completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline