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December 9, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

AGC KEY VOTE: VOTE YES ON H.R. 573, THE STUDYING NEPA'S IMPACTS ON PROJECTS ACT; H.R. 3898, THE PERMIT ACT; and H.R. 4503, THE ePERMIT ACT

Dear Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)—the leading construction association representing America's top general contractors and specialty contractor firms in every state—I write in support of critical permitting reform legislation, Studying NEPA's Impacts on Projects Act (H.R. 573), the PERMIT Act (H.R. 3898) and the ePERMIT Act (H.R. 4503). As such, **AGC reserves the right to record the votes on these bills as KEY VOTES for the education of its membership.**

Project delays caused by prolonged reviews, permitting, and litigation increase costs and harm the construction workforce by delaying job creation, disrupting hiring, and reducing economic activity. When projects stall, construction firms delay hiring or lay off workers, creating uncertainty for skilled tradespeople and harming local economies. These bills will help mitigate permitting delays that often impact critical infrastructure projects nationwide.

The ePERMIT Act and Studying NEPA's Impacts on Projects Act will streamline the permitting review process and mitigate delays by requiring electronic permitting filings and an annual report for Congress on NEPA reviews. For over two decades, federal water policy has vacillated wildly with the last five administrations issuing divergent definitions of waters of the United States (WOTUS). Despite these divergent definitions, each administration has seen the value of exclusions, which endure with relative consistency. The PERMIT Act will improve the Clean Water Act permitting processes, ensuring contractors can continue to rebuild our nation's critical infrastructure. By passing the PERMIT Act, Congress can lend stability to the WOTUS debate, codifying long-standing exclusions, improving predictability and consistency.

AGC thanks the House leadership for considering these permitting reform bills. **Again, I urge you and your colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 573, H.R. 3898 and H.R. 4503.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Etchen".

Alex Etchen
Vice President, Government Relations