

CAL DOOLEY
PRESIDENT AND CEO



February 22, 2017

Gary Cohn
Director, National Economic Council
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Cohn:

On behalf of the American Chemistry Council (ACC), I am writing to urge the Administration to prioritize nominating one or more commissioners to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Absent a quorum, FERC cannot perform its critical mission of approving projects to expand and modernize the nation's energy infrastructure.

The U.S. chemical industry is very natural gas-intensive. Most chemical production is derived from the carbon and hydrogen molecules found in natural gas and natural gas liquids. In our industry, there is no substitute for those carbon and hydrogen molecules. They are the foundation for America's chemical industry. Our member companies create the building blocks for countless products, from advanced plastic packaging to energy-saving building products to high-tech materials that make our cars, planes, and electronics lighter, stronger, and more fuel-efficient.

Thanks to the revolution in producing natural gas from shale formations, the U.S. has the most competitive chemical industry in the world. Companies from all over the globe recognize America's competitive advantage and are investing heavily in building new chemical manufacturing facilities or expanding production capacity in the U.S. At last count, 294 projects with a cumulative value of \$179 billion are on line or in some stage of development. That investment could lead to \$105 billion per year in new chemical industry output and more than 700,000 permanent new jobs across the economy by 2023. It represents a stunning reversal of fortune for our industry, and none of it would be possible without an abundant supply of shale gas.

The nation's natural gas infrastructure is vast, but rising demand means that even more pipelines are needed to deliver gas to consumers. In order for the gas distribution system to fully serve the market, we need a functioning FERC to expeditiously review and act on pipeline applications. By naming new commissioners and putting FERC back to work, this Administration can help gas-consuming industries like ours achieve their full potential to benefit America's economy.



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Thank you for considering the important role FERC plays in spurring economic growth and job creation for our country. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Owen Kean of my staff at 202-249-6416.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cal Dooley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cal Dooley