



*John Engler*

*President and CEO*

June 5, 2007

**VIA FACSIMILE**

The Honorable Nick Rahall  
Chairman  
Committee on Natural Resources  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Don Young  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Natural Resources  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rahall and Congressman Young:

On behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), I strongly urge your support for an amendment to strike Titles I and II from H.R. 2337.

The NAM devotes great attention to energy policy because manufacturing is tremendously energy intensive. Manufacturers use more than one-third of the nation's natural gas and almost 30 percent of its electricity. Natural gas is important not just as a fuel and source of electricity, but also as a feedstock for such diverse products as plastics and life-saving pharmaceuticals.

Affordable, reliable energy is essential if manufacturers in the United States are to compete in the global marketplace.

Since prices began to climb in the summer of 2000, the nation has lost more than 3.1 million manufacturing jobs. The NAM strongly believes that our nation's energy policy should be forward-thinking, and that we should not roll back the policy advances achieved through years of diligent, informed work and policy consensus.

America's "energy independence" or "energy security" will only be made possible by embracing the tremendous domestic energy resources available in this nation.

Currently, the United States imports more than 55 percent of its petroleum needs. Taking advantage of the Energy Policy Act's provisions that would expedite permitting of domestic energy projects will go a long way toward reducing the country's reliance on foreign imports.

Titles I and II, if passed, would erect new barriers to domestic energy development by repealing and changing significant portions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct 05). The provisions contained within Titles I and II would, among others, impose unnecessary delays to

***Manufacturing Makes America Strong***

1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW • Washington, DC 20004-1790 • (202) 637-3106 • Fax (202) 637-3460 • [www.nam.org](http://www.nam.org)

June 5, 2007  
Page 2

domestic oil and natural gas development, repeal agency decision-making deadlines that have increased both permit approvals and rejections and delay approval process by requiring redundant environmental analyses when they have already been completed.

Instead of delaying or reducing domestic supplies of oil and natural gas, Congress should be securing our energy resources, which are essential to continuing economic growth, reducing dependence on foreign energy sources, and preventing the loss of millions of jobs.

Sincerely,

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

John Engler  
President

JE/km

cc: Committee on Natural Resources