

Rule Change Protects Environment While Helping America Rebuild

Today, President Trump unveiled a new rule that modernizes the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a vital federal environmental law that has not seen major updates since it was adopted in 1970. NEPA reforms have been a top Chamber priority for decades.

“It should not take longer for a project to get permitted than it does for it to be constructed, but unfortunately that is often the case in the United States today. After two decades of discussion about the need for reform, spanning multiple Administrations, we’re thankful that the Trump Administration has made this issue a priority and taken thoughtful action,” said U.S. Chamber CEO Tom Donohue in a [statement](#).

“These NEPA updates will make the federal permitting process more predictable and transparent. It will establish timelines for a decision and make requirements more straightforward. Ultimately, this new rule is not about the outcome of permit applications, but the process and time it takes to get to a decision.”

“Make no mistake: NEPA is vital to protecting our environment,” Donohue noted. “This NEPA update does not change existing environmental laws, and it maintains public input opportunities that are so important. Instead, these updates return NEPA back to its original intent – a timely and focused review of environmental impacts – rather than a tool to delay projects for years and even decades, which is what it had become.”

Read Tom Donohue’s full statement [here](#).