

## ENERGY and PERMITTING

**Abundant, affordable, and reliable energy is the keystone of Pennsylvania's economy.**

An all-of-the-above energy strategy is ideal. Two elements are hurting PA's energy. One is a lack of energy infrastructure such as pipelines and other supporting infrastructure to move energy supplies to meet demand. The second is PA's entrance to the Regional Green House Gas Initiative (RGGI). The Power PA Jobs Alliance, citing the state's Independent Fiscal Office (IFO), says RGGI would not reduce carbon emissions and would cost residential consumers an estimated \$800 million a year.

*"Pennsylvania is the 'Largest exporter of gas and electricity, the second largest exporter of coal to international markets and the second largest producer of electricity from nuclear power," as well as an internationally recognized producer of energy'... we need pro-growth policies at the state.... to encourage investment because high energy prices will impact everything from the manufacturing sector to the operations of schools and healthcare systems...*

*...in order to increase productivity and revenue, expanding and repairing the existing infrastructure is crucial and that streamlining the permit process is necessary to allow these expansions ..."*

***...adapted PA House Republican Policy Hearing, "Rising Cost of Energy," Testifier, 2/6/23, Harrisburg***

Permitting can be made a positive by streamlining, improving, and shortening the permitting process. Certainty and consistency are required when starting a building project. Instances have been cited in other states such as West Virginia and Ohio where investors can get a permit in 60 days opposed to the two years it can take in Pennsylvania. In order to keep current and attract new employers, our permitting process should be transparent and easily accessible. This will help grow the economy and provide opportunities for the next generation.