

Chairman Ted Cruz Ranking Member Maria Cantwell United States Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee 554 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell:

We write in regard to President Trump's nomination of Mr. Paul Roberti to serve as the administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). On behalf of the American Gas Association,¹ the American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers,² the American Petroleum Institute,³ the American Public Gas Association,⁴ GPA Midstream Association,⁵ the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America,⁶ and the Liquid Energy Pipeline Association,⁷ we encourage your expedited consideration of this highly qualified nominee.

The members of our associations partner with PHMSA to ensure our country has safe and reliable pipelines, delivering the energy Americans need. Collectively, we engage with PHMSA in many ways, such as commenting on impactful regulatory actions, supporting research and development, and collaborating on grant opportunities. With appropriate consideration of industry input, PHMSA can be an invaluable partner. We believe Mr. Roberti's background and leadership position him to strengthen and guide the agency during this pivotal time for pipeline safety.

Mr. Roberti's experience also sets him up to be a successful administrator. Prior to his nomination, Roberti served as Chief Counsel at PHMSA, where he played a crucial role in shaping regulatory policy and ensuring the safe transport of energy through pipelines. His public service career also includes a tenure as Assistant Attorney General in Rhode Island and as a Commissioner on the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission, where he oversaw critical infrastructure and utility regulation.

¹ For more information, visit <u>www.aga.org</u>.

² For more information, visit <u>www.afpm.org</u>.

³ For more information, visit <u>www.api.org</u>.

⁴ For more information, visit <u>www.apga.org</u>.

⁵ For more information, visit <u>www.gpamidstream.org</u>.

⁶ For more information, visit <u>www.ingaa.org</u>.

⁷ For more information, visit <u>www.liquidenergypipelines.org</u>.



In summary, Mr. Roberti's deep understanding of PHMSA and pipeline safety regulations, prior experience in the organization, as well as his personal commitment to pipeline safety are key assets for him to lead the agency. We endorse his nomination, and we respectfully urge the Committee to move expeditiously in considering this nomination.

Sincerely,

American Gas Association

- American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
- American Petroleum Institute
- American Public Gas Association
- GPA Midstream Association
- Interstate Natural Gas Association of America
- Liquid Energy Pipeline Association