Speaker 1 ([00:00](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=0.65)):

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the permitting side deal. Press call at this time, all lines are in. Listen only mode. Following the presentation, we will conduct a question and answer session. If at any time during this call, you require immediate assistance. Please press star zero for the operator. This call is being recorded. I would now like to turn the conference over to Abigail Dylan, please go ahead.

Speaker 2 ([00:31](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=31.31)):

Hi everyone. Uh, thank you so much for joining today's press conference on the permitting side deal that's been attached or, uh, slated to the attached to a continuing resolution today. We're going to hear from environmental justice leaders and hill champions about the threats that Senator mansions, uh, negotiations pose to communities and our bedrock environmental protections. We'll discuss the real solutions to conduct meaningful environmental reviews and provide communities with more meaningful opportunities to have their voices included. As we build out the clean energy infrastructure of the future. My name's Abigail Dylan. I'm the president of earth justice, and at earth justice, we are honored to reconvene the equitable and just national climate forum. Uh, and we're thrilled to be with many other founding members on today's president. Uh, we have an excellent lineup of speakers who represent the voices of communities that have been burdened too long by pollution from fossil fuels and are reliance on it.

Speaker 2 ([01:38](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=98.37)):

They all have firsthand experience dealing with the real human consequences of reckless development that, uh, has gone forward without regard to impacts, uh, on people. This side deal comes on the heels of, uh, passing historic leg legislation to address the climate crisis and also environmental, uh, injustice. And we have high hopes for turbo charging our transition to clean energy and also addressing environmental injustice in this country. But as we know, the bill also contains painful concessions that will further entrench fossil fuel interests in many communities, including in the Gulf Appalachia and Alaska. Um, and it, and is part of the deal to pass the inflation reduction act. Senator Schumer promised Senator mansion a vote on this deal. We seen the text for the first time released, uh, late yesterday. And, uh, this is moving ahead extremely quickly, uh, without much time for review or consideration.

Speaker 2 ([02:49](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=169.29)):

Um, I do wanna be clear. I think everyone on this call, certainly including me agrees that we must accelerate our transition to clean energy, to fight climate change, but we cannot do so on the backs of the communities of color and low income communities that have been bearing the impacts of fossil fuel pollution for far too long. So, um, today we are joined by congressional champions and, uh, incredible environmental justice leaders, including, uh, representative Chen. Uh, we are going to be hearing, uh, from him first. Uh, we are, there's a vote going on. We're awaiting representative Bri Haba, and we will, uh, make sure just as soon as he's able to join us. Um, and I'm going to, um, but, but I'm gonna turn first to, um, representative McKeehan who is, uh, a co um, author and sponsor of the environmental justice for all act, uh, Congressman

Speaker 3 ([03:58](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=238.13)):

Thank you, Abby, and to all of you who have organized today's event and to all of you who are participating, thank you for allowing me to be part of this, uh, this program today into the press. Good morning. I'm pleased to be with you today. I'm Congressman dial MCON. I have the privilege of being the Congressman for Virginia's fourth congressional district in the United States house representatives. And we all know why we are here today. The mansion side deal cannot cannot be included in any must pass legislation put forward by Congress. When we passed the inflation reduction act, we took historic unprecedented action to combat climate change and accelerate our country's transition to a clean energy future while creating millions of new jobs. And while it did not include as, as robust of an investment in environmental justice priorities, as we would've liked, it did include important provisions provisions that I have long advocated for that will help begin to combat and dismantle some of the longstanding environmental inequities.

Speaker 3 ([05:09](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=309.1)):

They plague vulnerable communities funding for clean energy tax provisions, air pollution, monitoring, and mitigation electrifying our school bus fleets, urban forestry, EJ block grants make underneath of process more efficient and more the clean energy tax provisions will translate to lower energy bills for hardworking Americans, greater energy independence of reduced reliance on the fossil fuel industry in improved public health outcomes, especially low income communities, communities of color and tribal and indigenous communities. As you know, who have all born the Brun of environmental justice and climate degradation far too long, the hour also includes funding that Cameron GRA Grava and I have long advocated for to support NEPA and help ensure that agencies have the resources they need to undertake accurate and timely reviews of submitted projects. It is imperative that we not allow that progress that we've made to be by standard mansions permitting side deal.

Speaker 3 ([06:26](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=386.74)):

Our environmental review laws play a crucial role in making sure that community input is taken into consideration. This will help us avoid past mistakes that have, that have subjected vulner vulner communities to environmental harms caused by infrastructure investments and other developments Lawing communities and communities of color were disproportionately harmed before NEPA. In fact, these egregious itself on these communities on a visa, why NEPA exists in first instance, we already have legislation in place to deal with these situations and we should not be retting this process. Instead of moving forward with this permitting proposal, we should take steps to empower Americans, empower Americans, especially the most vulnerable among us, and ensure that they have a place in the decision making tree. The environmental justice, Paul act led by chair hall, and I would strengthen NEPA, provide added protections for EJ communities and give them avenues of recourse and confronted with environmental justices in their area.

Speaker 3 ([07:41](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=461.91)):

It also promotes meaningful consultation between impacted communities and Washington and incorporates the notion of team of impacts to ensure that we are tailoring our policy solutions for each unique. So situation and avoiding the dreaded one size fits all approach. Now more than ever is imperative, that we continue building on our momentum with the environmental justice hall act and advance this legislation forward. We need to prioritize the health and wellbeing of the American people over the interest of corporate polluters in the fossil fuel industry. And the EJ hall act will help us achieve that as always. I would like to thank chair GHA for his partnership and leadership on this bill and on, and in this effort on, on, uh, doing away with the permitting deal. I extend my gratitude to every EJ group and advocate on advocate on today's call. We cannot stop fighting to achieve environmental justice, and that begins with stopping this permitting side deal and then moving forward with the EJ fall. Thank y'all God bless.

Speaker 2 ([08:59](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=539.27)):

Thank you so much representative Chen. And, um, my understanding is that chair, uh, chairman Alva has joined us, uh, representative Raul Alva is the chair of the NA house natural resources committee. He is, uh, as representative McKeean, uh, just spoke to a longstanding champion of addressing environmental justices and has been outspoken against the permitting side deal. He recently spearheaded a letter signed by 77 house Democrats, urging house leadership to not include the permitting language and must pass legislation, including the CR chairman green hall. Thank you for joining us. I'll turn it over to you.

Speaker 4 ([09:41](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=581.33)):

Thank you very much. And, uh, let me thank my, uh, colleague and, and partner, uh, uh, representative McKeon, uh, his leadership on, on the development and the, uh, and the submission of our EJ for all legislation it's has been, uh, has been a very important, uh, contributor to that, that effort, a key contributor. And I, and I wanna take this time to thank you, you know, I think, uh, representative McKian kind of outlined where, where, where our, uh, opposition to, uh, to a forced vote, uh, on, on a must pass piece of legislation, keeping the government open the CR, uh, and, and, um, the attendant writers, uh, that, that were developed, uh, as part of the deal to get the, uh, the, uh, re inflation reduction act done. And, and we, I think we start with the premise that no one involved in, in, in, in our effort is, is out there advocating and saying, let's shut down the government as a consequence of this bad deal, but we are saying it's a bad deal.

Speaker 4 ([10:49](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=649.83)):

And one of the ways that we felt was important for leadership to have in front of them, um, particularly on the Senate side, uh, was the, the point about separate these votes, the consequence of the permitting reform, which has been a euphemism, uh, by, uh, by the extraction industry and by their, their, uh, their voices and their votes here in, in, in, in Congress has been that euphemism has been to as, as Mr. McKean correctly said, dismantled and, and get rid of NEPA, the, the, the, an avenue for the public, uh, to be able to, uh, address know about, have the right to know, and be able to redress issues relative, uh, to the siting and the permitting, uh, of, of, of activities on public land and waters that affect their lives. And this is particularly through of frontline communities, indigenous communities who have been overburdened historically with the siding and permitting of, uh, facilities and activities, uh, extraction activities near or adjacent to, or in the backyard of significant communities, 140 million people across the station, uh, that would be classified as frontline community.

Speaker 4 ([12:14](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=734.05)):

So we're not talking about a small isolated, uh, uh, total, total totality of people. We're talking about 140 million and EJ for all act dealt with that. And it strengthened NEPA for, for the ability of people to participate and the AB, and it reformed the ability to, to redress legally, uh, when, uh, disparate treatment discriminatory treatment happens to community based on, on them being a protected class, that they have the right to court. And the last thing is cumulative effect that you cannot cite and permit, uh, installations, facilities, activities, uh, without, without adding up the cumulative effect of, of, uh, of that, that one particular, uh, siding, uh, ver in addition to every other siding that is there, every other permitted use that is there, and you add the totality and you begin to see the true picture of what the public health consequences are. The environmental consequences are the pollution and contamination consequences are for communities across this country.

Speaker 4 ([13:25](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=805.45)):

And while the emphasis is on EJ, quite frankly, uh, the protection of the public's right to know, and participate is a nationwide agenda item as well. And the support that we received on the letter asking for the separation of those two was primarily based on the fact, uh, that, uh, organizations across this country, uh, participated in talking to their members of Congress and, and getting the robust number of signatures that we did. Uh, you know, we stopped at 77 members have come forward asking that they want to be part of it as well. So we, we, we proceeded beyond 80, uh, way beyond 80. And so I'm, I'm, I think that is a significant number, and this is brought to our leadership, not as a threat, but as a reality. So we wanna avoid the drama, you wanna avoid the trauma, then separate them the way they should be.

Speaker 4 ([14:20](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=860.84)):

You know, they're struggling in the Senate, uh, uh, the Republicans want something worse than the mansion rider regarding NEPA and permitting. They want cart blanche, but the permitting that was in the rider that we've been reacting to, and that have been part of the, uh, what, uh, mansion's office and others released recently, our opposition continues to be the same and one re once somebody asked me, well, this is a personal get back at mansion for other things he did did in bill back better. And with the IRA, no, it could have been Schumer's name on that, and we would've opposed it, it could have been Durban's name on it, and we would've opposed it. The, the fact remains that this is bad policy, and this is no time for Democrats to be handing to the Republicans, uh, uh, of victory. This is, this is an opportunity to separated and let, 'em both stand on their own merit.

Speaker 4 ([15:18](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=918.6)):

I don't want the government to close, but I don't wanna, I don't want to vote for, for a piece of legislation that is gonna have, uh, historical negative consequences and communities that are already, uh, dealing, uh, with the reality of, uh, of pollution contamination concentrated on in their areas and concentrated on their families. That that's the reason for the letter. That's the reason for the ongoing, uh, struggle that we're having to separate these votes. And, uh, and we're gonna continue that because, uh, we think that it is not only a, a, a benchmark for environmental justice, because if we do the corollary, the writer, whatever you want to call it, it sets that agenda back even further. And it is, it is the, it is blow against public participation science and the public's right to know. And so by UN by dismantling NEPA, those are two significant issues with historical consequences, negative consequences for communities.

Speaker 4 ([16:21](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=981.28)):

That's why we're doing what we're doing. And as, as told other people, when they ask me, what do you want? I'm not an, I'm not an independent broker in this, in this question. I, I hope that I represent some values and some opinions that are out there. And I, and, and, and the members that have signed the letter do as well, that we're not there in isolation. And, and, and if, if people wanna genuinely talk about where we're going in the future, how we're, how impacted communities and frontline communities are gonna be respected through the rest of the process, we're open to that. And we want to, but right now, given the choices we have to oppose it, of them being tied together in a must pass piece of legislation. That's, uh, you know, I think, uh, I think Senator Sanders said it the best when he said to put a gun to your head, and then you're kind of, as a member of Congress stuck, do you, and, and we don't want that gun put at our head, and we don't want that gun unloaded on EJ communities across this country. And so that's where we're at, and then we'll continue. And, and that effort going forward.

Speaker 2 ([17:27](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1047.619)):

Thank you so much, chairman Rojava. Uh, we will hear next from Dana Johnson. She is the senior director of strategy and federal policy with we act for environmental justice.

Speaker 5 ([17:42](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1062.75)):

Thank you so much, Abby. And thank you, uh, representative Chen and chair Alva for, um, setting such a powerful foundation for this conversation. Um, as a collective centered on advancing environmental priorities in federal policy, making, um, the members of the equitable and just national climate platform, reject attempts to reform, permitting processes in a way that will undermine community voices and federal decision making Senator Manson's permitting. Bill is the anti antithesis of environmental justice, which demands that public policy be based on mutual respect and free from any form of discrimination or bias. We know that inclusive and well resourced permitting processes can lead to adjust and pollution free energy economy, and that it can be done at a scale. And with the urgency needed to address climate change while we are still doing in depth analysis on the text that came out yesterday. Some of the critical concerns that we have identified are this bill curtails, environmental review and public input.

Speaker 5 ([19:01](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1141.54)):

It allows for deficient state analysis to be substituted for a substantive robust federal review. It bypasses more protective federal requirements. It promotes the use of categorical exclusions from the NEPA process, which would allow projects to be approved with little to no public input transparency or environmental impact analysis. It curtails public access to the courts by excluding impacted communities from seeking legal redress for legal projects. I'm sorry for illegal projects by establishing very high hurdles for impacted stakeholders to preserve their rights, to seek legal redress and file them in time. It also enables polluting projects to move forward by prioritizing dirty fossil fuel projects with a designation of being of national importance. Additionally, we all agree that we need to urgently build out renewable energy and that a thorough environmental review process must be at the center of ambitious, renewable energy deployment. But let us be clear. There is absolutely no evidence that renewable energy needs permitting reform or that renewables would benefit from hollowing out bedrock, environmental policies supporting this permitting side deal will perpetuate racially economically and

Speaker 6 ([20:46](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1246.68)):

Environmentally disproportionate harms. That is chair Grava noted will be felt for generations in communities of color and in areas of low income. Any vote for Senator mansions permitting bill is a vote for a sacrifice zone and a vote for sacrificing people back to you, Abby,

Speaker 2 ([21:11](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1271.8)):

Thank you so much, Dana. We'll hear next from Michelle Roberts. She's the national co-coordinator of the environmental justice health Alliance for chemical policy reform. Michelle,

Speaker 6 ([21:25](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1285.119)):

Thank you, Abby. Thank you, chair Hova and representative Chen, and to all of our esteem, my esteem colleagues on this panel, um, we just wanna reiterate the fact that, uh, this process, uh, this secretive process and borrowing away from, um, my colleague <laugh> Dana, uh, Johnson is the antithesis of environmental justice itself. Just having a secretive backdoor process that does not include those who are most impacted this process, uh, through which the energy permitting package came together is for what we consider very undemocratic. Uh, the inclusion of all of these harmful provisions as laid out, as you just heard, um, from Dana Johnson and, uh, representative MCK kitchen and Andrew Harbor, um, is a continuing resolution on any other must pass legislation would silence the voice of frontline and environmental justice communities. We actually, at this point demand the members of Congress to reject these harmful provisions, being added to any must pass, uh, legislation at the environmental justice health Alliance for chemical policy reform.

Speaker 6 ([22:57](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1377.77)):

We have engaged with them administration and Congress on strengthening, permitting processes through evidence based based reforms that would provide certainly for, uh, project sponsors and stakeholders and result in rapid deployment of energy projects without sacrificing through any me, uh, through and meaningful community input and engagement. The permitting side deal undermines the countless decades of works that are affiliates, a advocates members and community members across this country have put into building effective environmental review processes that leave no community behind. We must stand Contin, continue to stand on that. Thank you, Abby, for this opportunity. And I'll pass this back to you.

Speaker 2 ([24:03](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1443.4)):

Thank you, Michelle. Uh, we'll hear next from Dr. Mildred McClean. She is the founder of citizens for environmental justice. Dr. McClean, Dr. McClean. I think you may be on mute. We're not hearing you yet.

Speaker 6 ([24:24](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1464.31)):

There we go. Good morning, everybody. And thanks for this opportunity to speak, uh, Congressman Rojava. We are one of those 140 million people that you're talking about down in the Southeast region. And we echo the sentiment that we strongly oppose any permitting reform attempts that would undermine community voices in federal decision making. We have been working with the national environmental policy act for over 35 years, and it is very important to us. The national environmental policy act NEPA as we call it is a critical tool to ensure that environmental justice communities are always included in federal decision making processes. It is the only tool that frontline communities, low wealth communities, communities of color, and indeed indigenous communities have to influence federal infrastructure projects that will impact them. The most energy projects can have enormous air and water pollution impacts that communities often have to live with throughout the lifetime of the infrastructure.

Speaker 6 ([25:40](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1540.4)):

We cannot weaken environmental review and public input processes for projects that can impact communities for decades to come. There is so much research that shows that a majority of federal actions that are subject to NEPA review are already reviewed through an expedited analysis. NEPA is a convenient scapegoat. We know, but the facts do not support the argument. That NEPA is the cause for delay of public infrastructure projects. Research makes it clear that the real corporates of prolonged project timelines are often one lack of project funding. Two changes in project design and insufficient agency resources and training, not public input and review of health and environmental impacts. So it is clear that the intent and impact of the permitting side deal is to limit public participation and silence community voices, unlike the environmental justice for all act, it tries to limit our voice and we cannot stand by and allow this to happen.

Speaker 6 ([27:00](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1620.9)):

If pass these permitting provisions being proposed by Senator mansion will be a giveaway to the very industries that are poisoning our communities and causing the climate crisis. Instead, as has been said, we need to restore and strengthen the voice of our communities in federal decisions and processes such as NPA. This is imperative. If we want to begin repairing the country's legacy of environmental injustice and begin to address in a real way, environmental justice, and to create an energy future that works for everyone in the last 30 years, communities of color, living around federal facilities under the jurisdiction of the department of energy associated with nuclear reference production have used NEPA to ensure that our voice has been included in all decision making process associated with those projects. For example, weighing in on the return of 15,000 spent nuclear fuel rods from Europe, as well as the disposition of 50 metric, tons of surplus weapon, grades, material plutonium, without NEPA, we would have no voice. So we stand with the Congressman and we're asking others to stand and to resist this permitting side deal. Thank you. And I'll turn it back over to Abby.

Speaker 2 ([28:39](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1719.87)):

Thank you so much, Dr. McClain. And now we'll hear from our final speaker, Richard Moore co-coordinator of Los hard Institute and national co-coordinator of the environmental justice health Alliance, Richard.

Speaker 7 ([28:55](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1735.06)):

Right. Uh, thank you. Thank you, Abby. Uh, thank you to my colleagues. Uh, uh, just as we, as we wind up this particular session, I, I just wanted to, to, to expand for a minute very quickly on several of the things that, uh, that have been mentioned here. One, I think on the part of, of many of us, I'm talking about hundreds upon hundreds of grassroots organizations throughout this country that are working on environmental economic justice issues that, uh, that Senator mentions bill, um, is obvious from our standpoint. Um, it is a move to, to dismantle and eliminate. I think that's very, very crucial for us to understand is to dismantle and eliminate NEPA. As my, as my colleagues have said, uh, for many of us in grassroots communities throughout this country, uh, we have been fighting to strengthen, uh, the NEPA for involvement of those that are most highly impacted.

Speaker 7 ([29:52](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1792.67)):

So this idea will prioritize dirty fossil fuel in projects. And we know that, and we'll privilege project sponsors over the public and will entrench environmental racism into decision making by sidelining the voices of impacted communities. I just wanna say that we do not use the word racism, or we do not use the word environmental racism lightly. Uh, very clearly we see in this dismantling and eliminating, uh, the NEPA as, uh, as that incredible impact in environmental injustice and environmental racism instead of what we are doing. And we will continue to do, um, with any bill, this bill or any other bill, um, to urge Congress, to proactively prioritize, protecting decision making by advancing legislation, such as the EJ for all act. And, and we're very clear about that HR 2021, the EJ for all act is an example. And I say it again, the EJ for all act is an example of what a democratic process looks like and what true community engagement books like a direct contrast from what this side dirty deal, um, is proposing.

Speaker 7 ([31:08](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1868.94)):

Uh, we are asking and calling on, uh, Senator, uh, speaker Pelosi and, uh, majority leader Hoyle, and to all Democrats on both sides of the chambers to reject this permitting side deal that extends a lifeline to fossil fuels. And it was, and it was created in backroom discussions and silences community voices. Um, this bill should not be, um, and I repeated this bill should not be, and the continued resolution. And once, once it is decoupled, uh, we asked that they are our officials oppose it. And lastly, I'll say again, we asked that that, that you independently passed the EJ for all act a true example of a bill where our community voices are reflected. And before I turn it over to Abby, I just want to close by saying this the EJ for all bill, as, as, as many of you own this call. And many of our colleagues know there's been hundreds upon hundreds upon hundreds of participants from grassroots community throughout this country, um, in the development of the EJ for all act.

Speaker 7 ([32:17](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1937.5)):

And at the same time, the staff, uh, both from the senator's side and the chairman's side, um, that we have been engaging with for this period. So this is, this is a, a true people's bill. Um, and, and as we've asked, uh, both Senator McKeon and chairman Raul, is this a people's bill, the EJ for all act, um, um, or is this a bill that's being developed without the input of grassroots people and workers throughout this country? And so thank you very much. This is truly a people's bill, and we're asking for total support across the board for the Eza for all that. Uh, again, thank you and aby I'll Abby, I'll turn it back to you.

Speaker 2 ([32:56](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1976.17)):

Thank you, Richard. Um, thanks everyone. Uh, who is on this call will now move to the Q and a portion of the event. Please raise your hand and you will be promoted to ask your question to the panelists. If you could state your name and outlet before asking your question, we'd be very grateful

Speaker 1 ([33:15](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1995.73)):

Ladies and gentlemen, we will now begin the question and answer session. If you would like to ask a question, please press star followed by the number one on your telephone keypad. And if you would like to withdraw your question, please press star followed by the number two. Your first question will come from Ari Nater of Bloomberg. Please go ahead.

Speaker 8 ([33:38](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2018.1)):

Uh, yeah. Hi. Uh, thank for taking my, my question. Uh, I had a question for if you're so opposed to, uh, this permitting deal. Why not say, uh, shut down the government over it? I mean, why not make,

Speaker 3 ([33:59](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2039.78)):

Could your question please? Hello? Thank you.

Speaker 4 ([34:11](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2051.43)):

I didn't, I didn't get the question like Mr. McKeon. This is <inaudible>. So if we could repeat it or somebody could repeat it for him.

Speaker 3 ([34:25](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2065.98)):

Conference center is terrible.

Speaker 2 ([34:29](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2069.67)):

I, I think that, I think the question was, um, if you were posed to the bill, uh, why aren't you stating that you will, um, vote against it if it's included in a CR

Speaker 3 ([34:47](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2087.93)):

Well, I I'll just speak from my own personal perspective, Mr. Chairman. You first?

Speaker 4 ([34:53](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2093.5)):

No, no, go ahead please. I'm sorry.

Speaker 3 ([34:56](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2096.42)):

No, I was just gonna say from my own personal perspective, I don't particularly want to, uh, hold a gun to my leadership's head. Um, they know my position if forced to, I will, um, uh, not, there are no circumstances under which I can see voting for the mansion bill in the form and format that it's in, whether it's, whether it's standalone or attached to a must pass bill. Um, but, uh, we would like, at least from my perspective, I would like to have conversation with my leadership and, uh, and, uh, make sure they understand the whys and the wheres, uh, that lead me to the position that I'm taking.

Speaker 4 ([35:39](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2139.19)):

Yeah. That basically concur with, with what Mr. McKeon just said. Uh, we went into this process, uh, with, you know, keeping it simple and, and the, and the simplicity for legislative work is that each piece of legislation up or down on its own merit. And, uh, and so I'm prepared to deal with the CR on its own merit and on its own merit, generally speaking, I would probably, I would support it, but if it's tied to and tethered by another piece of legislation, a writer, whatever you want to call it, that, uh, that basically, uh, creates the kind of historic consequences that I spoke to earlier. Uh, then I'm then, then the, it becomes very difficult. Uh, I don't think Mr. McKian and I are not telling individual members that have signed a letter. You must do this afterwards. I think every member will come to its own their own conclusions.

Speaker 4 ([36:41](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2201.33)):

If there is a risk involved, if there is a risk involved, uh, with, uh, with government shutdown, the risk is to Teter these two together period, that's the risk and, uh, uh, divide them. And then they stand on their own. S for me, it is a, uh, simple and direct way to deal with this question. As I said earlier, you avoid the drama of your question and you avoid the trauma of members having to come to the conclusion of how they're going to vote. Yes or no, on a must pass piece of legislation to keep the government open. It's unfair. Our leadership is in control of that and should exercise the discretion for the sake of, uh, our party, uh, to allow us to look deal with this separately. That's still, my that's still my pitch and the standalone for EJ is another pitch. Uh, and we'll forward both those, but at this point, what's, what is the crisis point for me is these being joined together and, and the agenda is to separate them. You know, uh, I know people would like to ask the question, what will you do? How, what would it be? The consequences whose fault is it? And right now the, we can avoid all those discussions by splitting, uh, this particular piece of legislation and until it's done. And until there is some understanding that it's either split or removed, uh, uh, this whole question that the gentleman asks is gonna continue to loom.

Speaker 3 ([38:27](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2307.44)):

And, and I think it's also worth UN remembering that no one picked up the phone and called us. It's not like EJ for all. Hadn't been out there. It's not like the chairman. And I haven't been running all across the country with our, with our grassroots advocates, talking about the importance of this bill. And it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out, uh, that this, uh, mansion side deal threatens a very, uh, notion of EJ fall and its, and its efficacy. So no one picked up the phone and called us. And, um, I personally don't feel obligated to vote for a side deal that I had nothing to do with.

Speaker 4 ([39:09](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2349.73)):

Yeah. I, I, I stated the same way Mr. McKeon did I didn't shake anybody's hands. I didn't make a deal. Nobody consulted, nobody asked, uh, nobody took the time to understand, uh, to ask the perspective cuz they would've heard it early and perhaps he could avoided this whole problem. Uh, this was a deal made in the Senate and then, uh, brought over to the, to the house, you know, to, uh, uh, and whether it was the administration, congressional leadership, uh, Senate leadership, uh, that put this deal together. Uh, the rank and file of Congress did not participate that and the, and the, and the people that had been promoting the EJ for all bill and putting it together and getting it ready, uh, were never called into that discussion. So yeah, I mean, uh, a lot of this drama and trauma is of their own making is we didn't create this, we're reacting to something they created.

Speaker 1 ([40:09](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2409.56)):

Your next question comes from Michael Martz of Richmond times. Dispatch, please go ahead.

Speaker 9 ([40:18](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2418.16)):

Uh, yes. I was gonna ask Don, uh, Congressman McKeon, um, who is driving this process on separating at the Senator of the house. I've heard that there's gonna be a potentially a closer vote in the Senate on Monday about whether to, um, include these provisions in the CR. Um, is, is that, what is, is that where it needs to happen or in the house? Can you, you have control in the house?

Speaker 3 ([40:46](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2446.89)):

Um, you know, I, I just assume have it happen in the Senate, uh, there, the rules seem to be more conducive to, uh, forcing the separation, uh, without having a government shutdown. Um, I wanna applaud my Senator, uh, Tim Kane for, uh, coming on board yesterday with his opposition to the mansion deal, uh, from what I read Michael, and it's only what I read. Obviously I don't have any particular insight. Um, there seems to be enough opposition in, in the Senate to, to kill the deal. So, um, uh, along with my, the leadership of my chairman, Mr. Grava, uh, we will dig in on the house side and see what happens, but, um, uh, we cannot allow, uh, a bill to pass that essentially NES EJ for all, without even a vote being taken on the, on EJ for all. Um, again, don't mean to sound like a, uh, a parent, but nobody picked up the phone and called me nobody, uh, asked the, uh, asked me, or even when I know about the implications of this side deal on, uh, a bill that the chairman and I have been working on now for the better part of two years, along with our grassroots advocates.

Speaker 3 ([42:07](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2527.36)):

Um, I have absolutely no compunction against voting against it.

Speaker 4 ([42:16](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2536.91)):

I, I, I believe the closure vote. This is Raul is on Tuesday or month. And, and, uh, that's obviously a significant vote. That's about tying them together. Uh, you know, the, the issue on the Senate side is that they tie it together, send it to us. And, uh, we are limited if not, uh, limited of not having the ability at all to change what they sent over to separate it. Uh, and, and so, uh, what happens in the Senate is it is, is critical. And the, the letter that some of the Senator five senators sent out was encouraging, uh, Senator Kane and others have, have, have joined that, uh, you know, and, and then McConnell's announcement that, you know, the, as bad as, uh, the present writer is that is not bad enough. So they're going with even more extreme, uh, disruption of NPA and, uh, ignoring EJ communities on, on the Republican side. Uh, so they have their own machinations that they have to deal with at the Senate. Uh, and, uh, you know, if, if they, if they don't tie 'em together, uh, that, that, uh, that would be, I, I, I wouldn't, it wouldn't break my heart at all. <laugh> to have it come to the house, clean at CR and, uh, and then Mr. McKean and I will, will press for, uh, the floor vote that we think is important for the EJ for all bill.

Speaker 1 ([43:54](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2634.53)):

Your next question comes from Jeff St. John of Canary media. Please go ahead.

Speaker 10 ([44:02](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2642.9)):

Thank you for taking the time, uh, representatives BEVA and McKeon. I'm wondering if you might have any thoughts on the transmission, electricity transmission reform, portions of the, uh, energy, independence and security act. And, uh, I know it's a little bit not germane to the current political situation, but whether or not, uh, you and, and other folks involved in EJ for all have any thoughts on whether or not they could support some of the expanded authority to FK to, uh, uh, you know, manage cost sharing and streamline, or in some cases, override state, you know, opposition to electric transmission development, uh, as a, as a part of an overall, you know, decarbonization strategy, uh, curious to know if you see any merits to that, uh, authority in countermanding, the harms that you've described, uh, potentially from, you know, taking away NIFA, uh, uh, for fossil projects, and if you'd be willing to support any similar transmission reform in any other piece of legislation in the future.

Speaker 3 ([45:12](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2712.739)):

Y you know, I can, I can, uh, certainly appreciate your question and the sincerity by which you put it forward, but you are essentially asking me and, and the chairman to negotiate through the press. And that's not something that I'm, at least I'm inclined to do.

Speaker 1 ([45:40](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2740.52)):

Your next question comes from Brian DS of national journal. Please go ahead.

Speaker 11 ([45:49](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2749.6)):

Uh, hi, thanks very much. Um, representative Grace Hall. I was wondering if I could ask you a quick couple questions. So one, just building off the question that was asked there, um, what do you make of the argument, which has been voiced by a lot of climate change champions, like for instance, Senator, uh, Brian shot that you do need some expedited, um, measures or expedited permitting, uh, procedures in order to build out all the massive deployment that's needed in the transmission line, um, for clean energy, uh, just generally, what do you make of that? And then, and then I wonder if you could talk a little bit more about Senator Schumer's, uh, handling of this. So, but for him, a lot of the attention is put on Senator mansion, but, but for Senator Schumer, this kind of wouldn't be foisted on you, and you said you weren't consulted about it. So what do you generally make of his handling of, of this legislation, which has led to, you know, kind of this position where it's either gonna go on CR it's not

Speaker 4 ([47:00](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2820.13)):

I, the, the off ramp on the transmission, I think is, uh, the least controversial of everything that's in there, except for the two particular, except for the projects that overrule court decisions that I, I have a, that I have, uh, opposition to, uh, that are particular to, to a Senator. Uh, I, I, I think that that's the whole point that when we talk about permitting reform transmission lines, you know, the concept of renewable and alternatives are not part of the conversation. Now, I understand that it could be the part of the conversation in a, in a particular senator's mind, but it's not in the text. And, uh, and so, yeah, I, I, I, uh, I think that's important and, and, uh, merits its discuss, but separate from, but that is not, you know, I, I, I hope that it's not interpreted that that's, uh, that's the candy that makes everything taste better.

Speaker 4 ([47:59](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2879.88)):

<laugh> in terms of, of, of the rider. It's not, uh, and in fact, you know, uh, giving more prominence, more ability, more resources, uh, in order for the NEPA process and the regulatory process and the approval process to be able to do the job and to include and to include, uh, the alternative and renewables as an essential part of that going forward. Uh, I, Mr. Chen and I, and people that signed this, uh, uh, letter, including 10 chairman of committees in the house, by the way, uh, would, uh, I think would be open, renewable transmission is in text, but it's not, uh, it's not the specificity and it's not the resource and it's not the focus. And that's what we would like to see, but that's down the road. I mean, right now we're dealing with this reality and I, and there's not a, I can't find a sugar coating including this issue, uh, that makes everything else go down easy. It's not,

Speaker 11 ([49:09](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2949.69)):

Uh, can you address the house? Senator Schumer has handled this.

Speaker 4 ([49:14](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2954.08)):

I avoided that question because I intended to avoid it. <laugh> I, uh, you know, it's, it's the, you know, it's the house of commons and the house of Lords <laugh> and, uh, the house of Lords sometimes, uh, works in mysterious ways. Uh, and, uh, uh, and in the house of representatives, it's, it's pretty direct. And, uh, I prefer it that way. I, the, I don't, I don't understand the strategy, uh, and I can understand the desperation of trying to put a deal together, uh, but to, uh, look at EJ and look at NEPA as a throwaway in that discussion. Uh, there, wasn't a lot of calculation there and, and, and, and certainly not a lot of understanding, uh, but strategically, uh, that, that wasn't, uh, I don't think, uh, uh, the, for, for the sake of unity within our own ranks, as a party and going forward into these midterms, uh, that, that strategy I think is, uh, uh, is it wasn't good. And, uh, and, but we have now time to undo that and move, move, uh, move forward with, uh, the government, uh, operations and, and serious discussions about transmission and serious discussions about EJ for all. I, I see that as an, as an optimistic look at what can happen later on, but, uh, presently, you know, I, I'm not, I'm not in a position to judge what that strategy was. I just think it was wrong. I guess I did judge it right. <laugh>

Speaker 1 ([50:50](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3050.91)):

Ladies and gentlemen, we have reached the allotted time for our question session. I will now turn the conference back to Abigail di for closing remarks,

Speaker 2 ([51:01](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3061.21)):

Just, uh, big thank you to representative McKeehan chairman Groff for taking time out of their incredibly busy days to, um, speak with us and answer so many questions and thanks to all who came and thank you very much to all the panelists for sharing your experience and your expertise with us today.

Speaker 4 ([51:21](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3081.32)):

Thank you very much to all, and to all the people that have been working very, very diligently and hard organizations, individuals on, on getting, uh, the word out and doing the advocates it's necessary. That's put us in the position, uh, that we weren't in two weeks ago, and I all myself and I hope I, and I believe I do speak for Mr. McKeon. We're very grateful, very appreciative. And, uh, as we've stated to leadership, we're not independent brokers. And I think your efforts have proven that. So thank you very much.

Speaker 12 ([51:56](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3116.19)):

Amen. Thank

Speaker 2 ([51:57](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3117.04)):

Both of you,

Speaker 1 ([51:58](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/H_6UzG8F_9DIncRCK1-7_1QfoRtFoPPc6yHwKjrEJZlTCRKnjGCy6fumEB2_fJU89arm5AaB9qWdlc7pA7x3Hg5jd8M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3118.19)):

Ladies and gentlemen, this does conclude your conference call for this morning. We would like to thank everyone for participating, and you may now disconnect your lines.