

THE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT | February 5th 2026

Keeping corporate leaders up to date on how policy decisions in DC are impacting sustainability efforts across the country.

Permitting Hearing Shows

Bipartisan Consensus

The Senate Environment & Public Works Committee recently held a hearing on permitting reform. The hearing underscored a growing bipartisan consensus that federal environmental review timelines, particularly under NEPA, are not keeping pace with rising energy demand and infrastructure needs. Lawmakers from both parties emphasized the need to streamline approvals while preserving environmental

safeguards, with witnesses from industry, labor, and clean-energy sectors arguing that predictable timelines and clearer federal coordination are essential to accelerate project deployment.

While the committee was mostly in agreement on where permitting reform should go, Democrats are still withholding support until the Trump administration lifts its moratorium on wind and solar projects.

Washington, DC Update

Congress passed FY26 appropriations for all energy and environment departments (EPA, DOE, CEQ, etc.). The White House launched a Project Vault to stockpile critical minerals. The Administration officially withdrew from the Paris Agreement earlier this year.

Want to Learn More?

- Watch the hearing [here](#).
- Read Chairwoman Capito's opening statement [here](#).

Engagement Opportunities

BUILD Grant Applications

- DOT is accepting Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant applications. These grants can be used for constructing surface transportation infrastructure projects that will improve safety; environmental sustainability; quality of life; mobility and community connectivity; economic competitiveness and opportunity including tourism; state of good repair; partnership and collaboration; and innovation. ***Applications due by February 24.***

Farm Bill Markup

- The House Agriculture Committee is planning for a markup on the Farm Bill in late February. If you have ideas on what should be included, reach out to the committee this month.

EPA Education Grant

- The EPA is accepting applications for its Environmental Education Grant Programs to support projects that design, demonstrate or disseminate environmental education practices. ***Applications are due by March 3, 2026.***

