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Statement on House Natural Resources Committee Approval of Bills to Facilitate Private Commercialization of Energy Resources Under Public Lands

(Washington, D.C., July 2, 2018) — The following statement may be attributed to James Edwards, Executive Director, <u>Conservatives for Property Rights</u>:

"Taxpayers would benefit from legislation the <u>House Natural Resources Committee</u> has reported out. The Removing Barriers to Energy Independence Act (H.R. 6087), the Streamlining Permitting Efficiencies in Energy Development (SPEED) Act (H.R. 6088) and the Ending Duplicative Permitting Act (HR 6107) reduce unnecessary bureaucratic barriers of paperwork and red tape, as well as curb environmental extremists' gaming the process.

"After all, the minerals beneath federal lands, including oil and gas, belong to the American people. These commercially viable resources should be licensed whenever feasible so that American energy independence progresses, federal revenue is generated through royalties and the government acts as a good steward of our natural resources.

"This legislation seems as though it would promote property rights and the free market, in line with Conservatives for Property Rights' principles."