Statement of Support from the Institute for Progress:

“The Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act is the most ambitious bipartisan permitting bill in decades. Senators Capito, Heinrich, Lee, and Whitehouse deserve enormous credit for striking a grand bargain that lowers costs, accelerates the deployment of vital infrastructure from power plants to public transit, and lets America build.

America’s ability to innovate and grow is stifled by a thicket of procedures required any time the government approves the construction of something new. The status quo limits our country’s ability to invest, in both the public and private sectors, in accordance with our scientific, technological, and industrial goals.

This bill strikes at the heart of our current stasis, replacing proceduralism with rational, time-bounded processes. The transmission provisions will enable the connection of hundreds of gigawatts of new supply to benefit American households and address increased demand from technological innovation. The judicial review provisions will ensure that private and public investment alike can no longer be ground to a halt by a “litigation doom loop” that too often kills projects. The permitting certainty provisions create a new reality in which politicians compete by enabling more of what they like rather than blocking what they dislike. The tech-neutral approach to reducing barriers will unleash the competitive spirit in our best industries and support our continued technological, scientific, and industrial supremacy. Overall, the bill ensures that the most cost-effective, innovative energy sources win, while also streamlining approval for all other federally approved infrastructure.

This deal is in the spirit of the best bipartisan legislation–both sides had to compromise, but came to a bold outcome that takes the best of all sides’ positions and benefits the American people. We urge Congress to send it to the president’s desk.

–Alec Stapp
Co-CEO
Institute for Progress