

Citizens' Climate Lobby

Energy permitting processes and how BAAJA expedites them

DELAYS	PERMITTING STEP	BAAJA CHANGES
NEPA environmental reviews can add 1 to 4+ years to project timelines	1 **Determine if project is subject to NEPA**	Narrows the types of actions that trigger NEPA
	2 **Determine if project has a categorical exclusion**	More categorical exclusions for projects with negligible environmental impacts
	3 **Determine if another environmental document applies**	Qualifying state or tribal reviews can stand in for NEPA
Lengthy documents and duplicative agency efforts add years	4 **Determine level of project environmental assessment needed, draft environmental document**	Shorter agency timelines; better agency coordination
Without transparency, public can miss input opportunities; projects lacking support can trigger lawsuits	5 **Consider public comments, publish final decision document**	Online permitting portal increases transparency for public input
Agencies can indefinitely delay permit issuance	6 **Issue permits to authorize project**	Agencies can't unfairly delay or revoke project permits
	7 **Parties can sue if they identify a problem with document**	Statute of limitations cut to 150 days; criteria set for who can sue
Lawsuits can add years to project timelines	8 **Courts can pause and void project permit if it has a flaw**	Prioritizes correcting deficiencies rather than halting approval of projects; Illegal permits can still be cancelled under other laws

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Sources: https://www.energy.gov/em/nepa-reviews
https://bipartisanpolicy.org/

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