



STATEMENT

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NHA Responds to White House Statement of Administration Policy on H.R. 8 Hydropower Licensing Provisions

Statement of NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci

Washington, D.C. – “The Administration’s concerns with the provisions to modernize the hydropower licensing process are greatly at odds with the President’s urgent need to address climate change and his all-of-the-above energy strategy, as hydropower today reduces our carbon footprint by 42 million cars each year. The Administration’s opposition also lends credence to the myth that improving the licensing process would upend environmental statutes. That myth has already been [discredited](#) by the facts.

“If indeed the status quo is working, then we must all agree that the licensing process shouldn’t have an organized schedule, state and federal regulators shouldn’t have to collaborate in the process, and hydropower development can be left to wither on the vine. If, however, we are truly serious about securing our nation’s clean energy future then it’s time to increase the production of our nation’s largest source of renewable electricity. It’s undeniable that delays and a lack of coordination in the process are causing the permitting of hydropower facilities to take a decade or longer.

“Simply put, the hydropower measures do not have the unintended effect of rolling back environmental protections. Going forward, we will continue working with the Administration and Congress to pass a commonsense clean energy proposal that protects environmental values.”

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