

110 W Michigan Ave. Suite 100 Lansing, MI 48933

P: 517.853.8880 **F:** 517.853.1093

MichiganForest.com

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The Michigan Forest Products Council applauds the announcement by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that it has released the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Rover natural gas pipeline project, as well as details for the next hearings to be held across the state.

From employment to manufacturing and to clean and plentiful energy production, the Rover pipeline will positively impact Michigan well into the future. The project, estimated to create nearly \$1 billion in direct spending, will see 76 percent of components built in the United States, and ensure Michigan manufacturing will have ample access to energy. It will also generate new tax revenues for Michigan.

The Rover pipeline is a promising opportunity for Michigan landowners, an important boost to our infrastructure, and an investment from a company committed to working with landowners and protecting Michigan's environment and natural resources.

We welcome a thorough review, but the time to start is now. Thousands of local jobs are on the line and employees throughout the supply chain—from manufacturers of steel pipe to construction workers—are ready to begin work. Federal regulators should respect their commitment and proceed with approval of the project in a timely fashion.