

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 Eric Wooten, J.D.

# Recent & Emerging Federal Environmental Developments



#### **ABOUT TERRACON**

**PROFESSIONALS** 

IN 2024 WITH OVER 23,000 CLIENTS

85,000

**PROJECTS COMPLETED** 

**Our Services:** 

- Facilities
- Environmental
- Geotechnical
- Materials



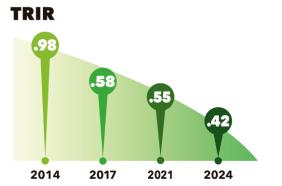
**ENR RANKINGS 2025** 

**TOP 500 DESIGN FIRMS** 

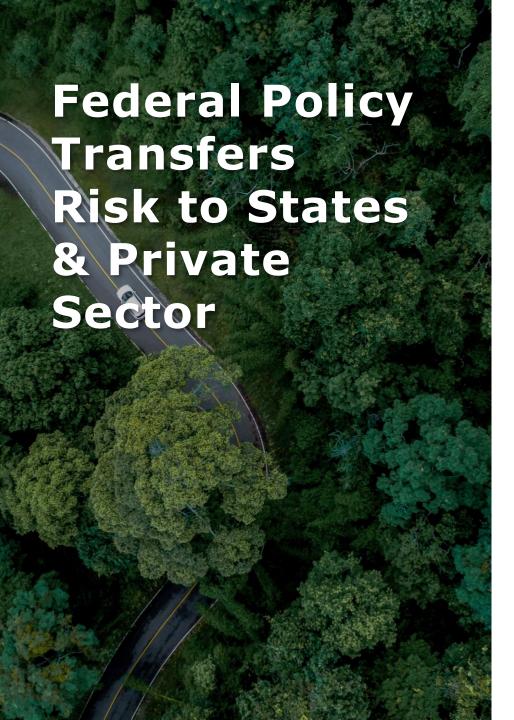












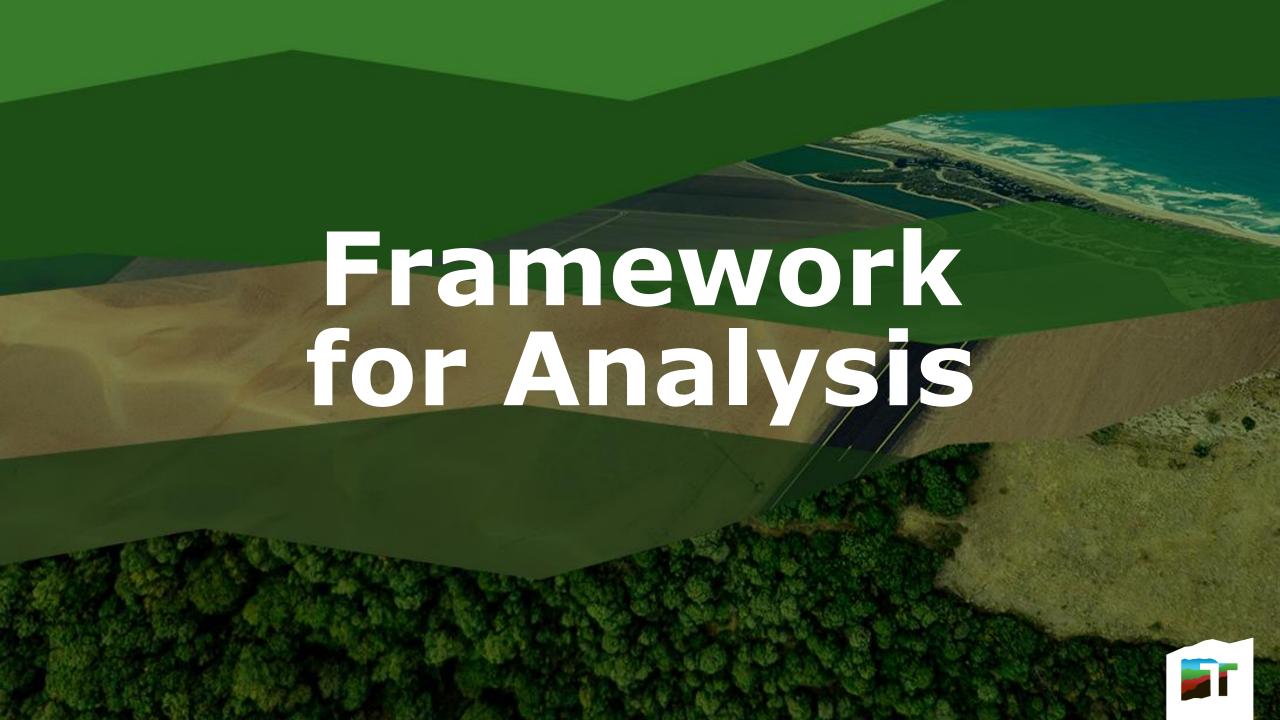
#### **Deregulatory Agenda**

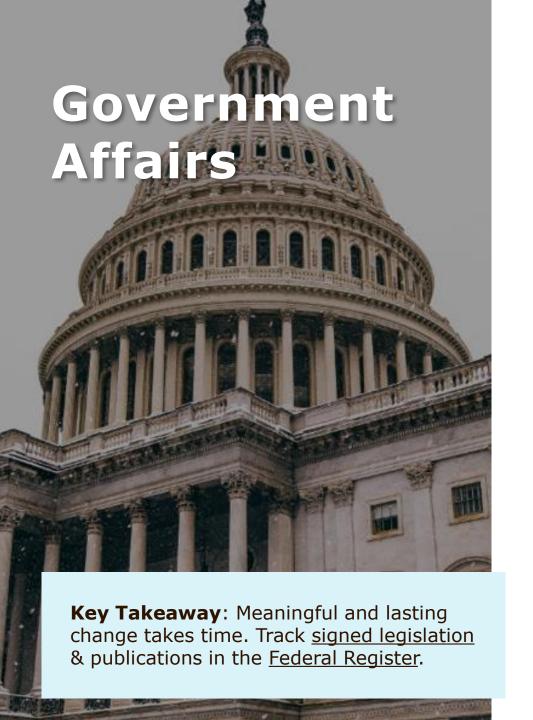
• EO 14192

#### **Three Channels**

- Regulatory Decentralization
- Funding & Tax Policy
- Liability Frameworks







#### **Executive & Legislation Branches**

Presidential actions & signed legislation

#### **Federal Regulations**

Actions taken by regulatory agencies

# State Regulations, NGOs, Investors, Insurers, & Consumer Demand

Local and regional drivers

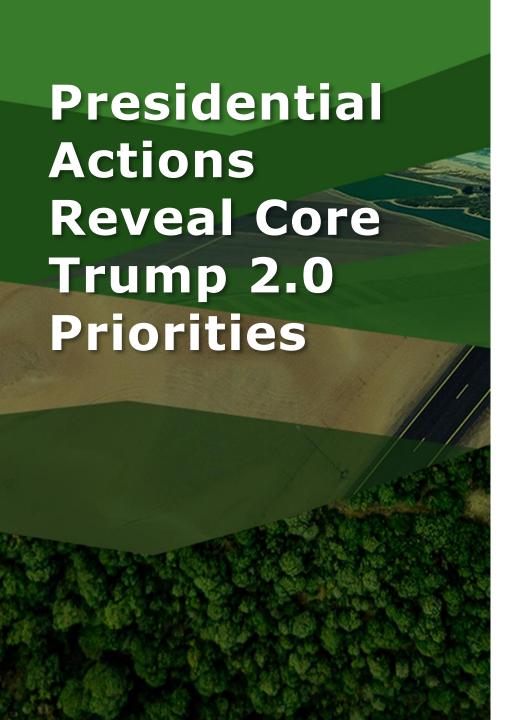




- 1. Monitor the Source
- 2. Analyze the Mechanism
- 3. Assess the Impact
- 4. Develop the Playbook







Presidential Actions by Issue Area	Primary Issue Area	Secondary Issue Area
Trade	37	30
Energy & Environmental	27	20
Social Issues	25	20
Administrative	15	11
Government Efficiency	15	15
International Relations	13	13
Education	13	13
National Security/Defense	13	13
Health Care	13	11
Government Investigations & Oversight	12	12
Tech & Telecom	12	11
Immigration	11	9
Financial Services	7	5
Federal Workforce	6	5
AI	4	3
Transportation/Infrastructure	3	3
Labor	2	1
Tax	1	1
Housing	1	1
Grand Total	230	197

<sup>\*</sup>Data from Brownstein - Trump Executive Action Tracker"

**Last updated**: 9/5/2025



# **Shifting Priorities**

## Biden (IRA & IIJA)

• <u>Climate-centric</u> policies focused on <u>resilient</u> <u>infrastructure</u>.

## Trump 2.0 (OBBBA)

- National Security & Border Infrastructure
- Onshoring Manufacturing
- America 1st Energy Dominance







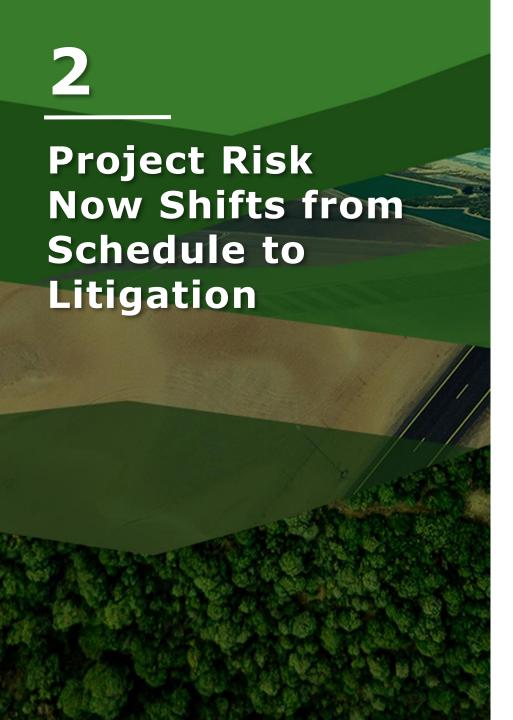
## **Opportunities**

- Direct Appropriations
- Tax Incentives

### Risks

- Cuts to Climate Grants
- Phase-out of Wind & Solar Tax Credits
- EPA Water SRF Cuts





#### **Old Risk**

Predictable, front-end schedule delays

#### **New risk**

Unpredictable, post-approval litigation

#### **Driver**

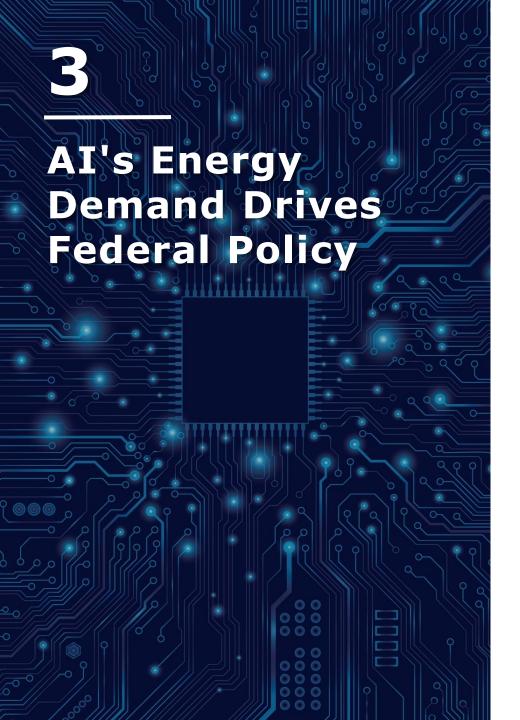
EO 14154 mandated decentralizing NEPA

#### **Mechanism**

CEQ rescinded its government-wide rules

#### Reinforcement

Supreme Court granted agencies "substantial deference"



#### The Feedback Loop

- Policy fuels AI growth
- AI drives energy policy

#### **Primary Drivers**

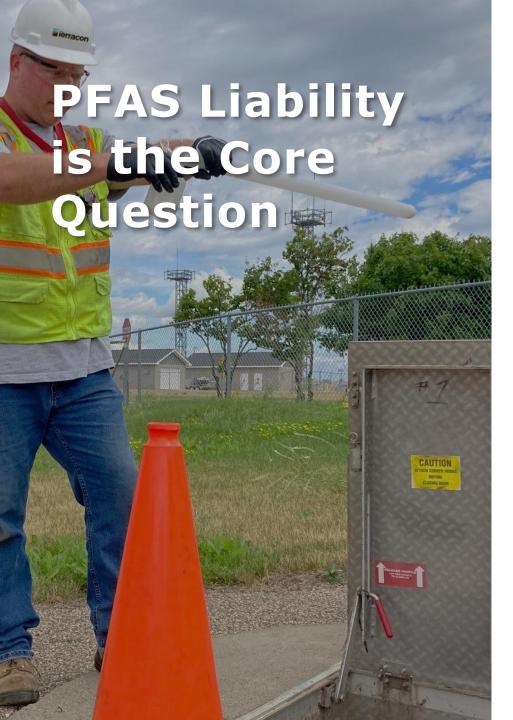
- EO 14318
- EO 14156
- EO 14262

#### **Impact on Energy Policy**

- Nuclear
- Grid







#### **Health Standards**

4.0 ppt PFOA/PFOS

#### **Compliance Deadline**

Extended to 2031

#### **Liability Framework**

CERCLA Rule

#### **Regulatory Uncertainty**

2023-2024 review

#### **Dynamic Policy**

Constant flux





- Policy Vacuum
- EO 14260 Challenge
- State Mandates
- Legal Uncertainty
- Compliance Complexity
- Advisory Demand





- "EPA Launches Biggest Deregulatory Action in U.S. History"
- Policy Approach
- Reconsidering Regulations
- APA Rules & Legal Scrutiny





- Funding Uncertainty
- Liability
- Industrial Drivers
- Regulatory Conflict







- Strategy Guide
- Risk Shift
- New Risks
- Policy Opportunities
- Old Playbooks



# Thank You!

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