

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1971

To establish an interagency coordination committee or subcommittee with the leadership of the Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior, focused on the nexus between energy and water production, use, and efficiency, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 29, 2014

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. WYDEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish an interagency coordination committee or subcommittee with the leadership of the Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior, focused on the nexus between energy and water production, use, and efficiency, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Nexus of Energy and
5 Water for Sustainability Act of 2014” or the “NEWS Act
6 of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
4 the Director of the Office of Science and Technology
5 Policy.

6 (2) ENERGY-WATER NEXUS.—The term “en-
7 ergy-water nexus” means the link between—

8 (A) energy efficiency and the quantity of
9 water needed to produce fuels and energy; and

10 (B) the quantity of energy needed to trans-
11 port, reclaim, and treat water.

12 (3) NSTC.—The term “NSTC” means the Na-
13 tional Science and Technology Council.

14 (4) COMMITTEE OR SUBCOMMITTEE.—The term
15 “Committee or Subcommittee” means the Com-
16 mittee on Energy-Water Nexus for Sustainability or
17 the Subcommittee on Energy-Water Nexus for Sus-
18 tainability, whichever is established by section 3(a).

19 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COORDINATION COMMITTEE.**

20 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director shall establish
21 either a committee or a subcommittee under the NSTC,
22 to be known as either the Committee on Energy-Water
23 Nexus for Sustainability or the Subcommittee on Energy-
24 Water Nexus for Sustainability, to carry out the duties
25 described in subsection (c).

26 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—

1 (1) CHAIRS.—The Secretary of Energy and
2 Secretary of the Interior shall serve as co-chairs of
3 the Committee or Subcommittee.

4 (2) MEMBERSHIP; STAFFING.—Membership and
5 staffing shall be determined by the NSTC.

6 (c) DUTIES.—The Committee or Subcommittee
7 shall—

8 (1) serve as a forum for developing common
9 Federal goals and plans on energy-water nexus
10 issues;

11 (2) promote coordination of the activities of all
12 Federal departments and agencies on energy-water
13 nexus issues, including the activities of—

14 (A) the Department of Energy;

15 (B) the Department of the Interior;

16 (C) the Corps of Engineers;

17 (D) the Department of Agriculture;

18 (E) the Department of Defense;

19 (F) the Department of State;

20 (G) the Environmental Protection Agency;

21 (H) the Council on Environmental Quality;

22 (I) the National Institute of Standards and
23 Technology;

24 (J) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
25 Administration;

- 1 (K) the National Science Foundation;
2 (L) the Office of Management and Budget;
3 (M) the Office of Science and Technology
4 Policy; and
5 (N) such other Federal departments and
6 agencies as the Director or the Committee or
7 Subcommittee consider appropriate; and
8 (3)(A) coordinate and develop capabilities for
9 data collection, categorization, and dissemination of
10 data from and to other Federal departments and
11 agencies; and
12 (B) engage in information exchange between
13 Federal departments and agencies—
14 (i) to identify and document Federal and
15 non-Federal programs and funding opportuni-
16 ties that support basic and applied research, de-
17 velopment, and demonstration proposals to ad-
18 vance the state of energy-water nexus related
19 science and technologies;
20 (ii) if practicable, to leverage existing pro-
21 grams by encouraging joint solicitations, block
22 grants, and matching programs with non-Fed-
23 eral entities; and

1 (iii) to identify opportunities for public-private
2 vate partnerships, innovative financing mechanisms,
3 and grant challenges.

4 (d) REVIEW; TERMINATION.—At the end of the 10-
5 year period beginning on the date on which the Committee
6 or Subcommittee is established, the Director—

7 (1) shall review the activities of the Committee
8 or Subcommittee and determine the relevance and
9 effectiveness of the Committee or Subcommittee; and

10 (2) based on the determination made under
11 paragraph (1), may terminate the Committee or
12 Subcommittee.

13 **SEC. 4. CROSSCUT BUDGET.**

14 Not later than 30 days after the President submits
15 the budget of the United States Government under section
16 1105 of title 31, United States Code, the Director of the
17 Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the
18 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
19 ate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the
20 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
21 resentatives a report that contains—

22 (1) an interagency budget crosscut report
23 that—

24 (A) displays the budget proposed, including
25 any interagency or intraagency transfer, for

1 each of the Federal agencies that carry out en-
2 ergy-water nexus projects for the upcoming fis-
3 cal year, separately showing funding requested
4 under both preexisting authorities and under
5 the new authorities granted by this Act; and

6 (B) identifies all expenditures since 2011
7 by the Federal and State governments on en-
8 ergy-water nexus projects;

9 (2) a detailed accounting of all funds received
10 and obligated by all Federal agencies and State
11 agencies responsible for implementing energy-water
12 nexus projects during the previous fiscal year;

13 (3) a budget for the proposed energy-water
14 nexus projects (including a description of the
15 project, authorization level, and project status) to be
16 carried out in the upcoming fiscal year with the Fed-
17 eral portion of funds for energy-water nexus pro-
18 grams; and

19 (4) a listing of all energy-water nexus projects
20 to be undertaken in the upcoming fiscal year with
21 the Federal portion of funds for those projects.

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