

Union Calendar No. 676

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7487

[Report No. 119-775]

To amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to encourage non-Federal hydropower development with respect to Bureau of Reclamation projects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Ms. BOEBERT (for herself and Mr. GRAY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

AUGUST 27, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 11, 2026]

A BILL

To amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to encourage non-Federal hydropower development with respect to Bureau of Reclamation projects.

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 “Rural Jobs and Hydro-*
 5 *power Expansion Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO RECLAMATION PROJECT ACT.**

7 *Section 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939*
 8 *(43 U.S.C. 485h(c); 53 Stat. 1194) is amended—*

9 *(1) by striking the subsection designation and*
 10 *inserting the following:*

11 *“(c) FURNISHING WATER TO MUNICIPALITIES; SALE*
 12 *OF ELECTRIC POWER; LEASE OF POWER PRIVILEGES.—”;*

13 *(2) in paragraph (1), by striking “small conduit*
 14 *hydropower using Bureau of Reclamation facilities*
 15 *and pumped storage hydropower exclusively using*
 16 *Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs” and inserting “hy-*
 17 *dropower using all Bureau of Reclamation facilities”;*

18 *(3) in paragraph (2)(A)—*

19 *(A) by striking “applicable transferred con-*
 20 *duit” and inserting “applicable transferred*
 21 *works facility”;*

22 *(B) by striking “applicable reserved con-*
 23 *duit” and inserting “applicable reserved works*
 24 *facility”; and*

1 (C) by striking “power privilege offer for a
2 small conduit” and inserting “power privilege
3 offer for the”;

4 (4) in paragraph (3), by striking “small con-
5 duit” and inserting “applicable”;

6 (5) in paragraph (4), by striking “small conduit
7 hydropower”;

8 (6) in paragraph (6)—

9 (A) by inserting “, or the management of
10 Bureau of Reclamation facilities specially au-
11 thorized for hydropower generation” before “, as
12 water used”;

13 (B) by striking “conduit” before “hydro-
14 power generation”;

15 (C) by striking “shall be deemed incidental
16 to” inserting “shall be deemed secondary to”;
17 and

18 (D) by striking “transferred conduit” and
19 inserting “transferred works facility”;

20 (7) in paragraph (7), by striking “conduit”;

21 (8) in paragraph (8)—

22 (A) by inserting “(referred to in this section
23 as an ‘authorization’)” before “issued by the
24 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission”;

1 (B) by striking “August 9, 2013,” and in-
2 serting “the date of the enactment of the Rural
3 Jobs and Hydropower Expansion Act”; and

4 (C) by adding at the end “Any authoriza-
5 tion issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory
6 Commission with respect to a project shall re-
7 main in place until such authorization becomes
8 inactive. As allowed by the Federal Energy Reg-
9 ulatory Commission, an authorization may be
10 renewed and remain active. Once the authoriza-
11 tion becomes inactive, project site jurisdiction
12 shall shift to the Bureau of Reclamation exclu-
13 sively.”;

14 (9) by redesignating paragraph (9) as para-
15 graph (10);

16 (10) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(9) Nothing in this section shall expand or oth-
19 erwise amend the Bureau of Reclamation lease of
20 power privilege authorities outside the project bound-
21 ary.”; and

22 (11) in paragraph (10), as so redesignated—

23 (A) by striking subparagraphs (A), (C),
24 (D), and (E);

1 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as
2 subparagraph (A); and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(B) *RESERVED WORKS FACILITY.*—
5 *The term ‘reserved works facility’ means*
6 *those facilities owned by the Bureau of Rec-*
7 *lamation where the Bureau of Reclamation*
8 *has retained responsibility for carrying out*
9 *operation and maintenance activities.*

10 “(C) *TRANSFERRED WORKS FACIL-*
11 *ITY.*—*The term ‘transferred works facility’*
12 *means a project facility where the oper-*
13 *ations and maintenance of that facility is*
14 *carried out by a non-Federal entity under*
15 *the provisions of a formal operations and*
16 *maintenance transfer contract.’.*

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