112TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. R. 5625

To reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 8, 2012

Mr. Murphy of Connecticut introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric 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 "Collinsville Renewable
- 5 Energy Promotion Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSES AND EX-
- 7 TENSION OF TIME TO COMMENCE CON-
- 8 STRUCTION OF PROJECTS.
- 9 Subject to section 4 of this Act and notwithstanding
- 10 the time period under section 13 of the Federal Power

- 1 Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to Federal
- 2 Energy Regulatory Commission projects numbered 10822
- 3 and 10823, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- 4 (referred to in this Act as the "Commission") may—
- 5 (1) reinstate the license for either or each of
- 6 those projects; and
- 7 (2) extend for 2 years after the date on which
- 8 either or each project is reinstated under paragraph
- 9 (1) the time period during which the licensee is re-
- 10 quired to commence the construction of such
- 11 projects.
- 12 Prior to reaching any final decision under this section, the
- 13 Commission shall provide an opportunity for submission
- 14 of comments by interested persons, municipalities, and
- 15 States and shall consider any such comment that is timely
- 16 submitted.
- 17 SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF LICENSES TO THE TOWN OF CANTON,
- 18 **CONNECTICUT.**
- Notwithstanding section 8 of the Federal Power Act
- 20 (16 U.S.C. 801) or any other provision thereof, if the
- 21 Commission reinstates the license for, and extends the
- 22 time period during which the licensee is required to com-
- 23 mence the construction of, a Federal Energy Regulatory
- 24 Commission project under section 2, the Commission shall
- 25 transfer such license to the town of Canton, Connecticut.

1 SEC. 4. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.

2	(a) Definition.—For purposes of this section, the
3	term "environmental assessment" shall have the same
4	meaning as is given such term in regulations prescribed
5	by the Council on Environmental Quality that implement
6	the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
7	4321 et seq.).
8	(b) Environmental Assessment.—Not later than
9	180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
10	mission shall complete an environmental assessment for
11	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission projects num-
12	bered 10822 and 10823, updating, to the extent nec-
13	essary, the environmental analysis performed during the
14	process of licensing such projects.
15	(c) Comment Period.—Upon issuance of the envi-
16	ronmental assessment required under subsection (b), the
17	Commission shall—
18	(1) initiate a 30-day public comment period;
19	and
20	(2) before taking any action under section 2 or
21	3—
22	(A) consider any comments received during
23	such 30-day period; and
24	(B) incorporate in the license for the
25	projects involved, such terms and conditions as
26	the Commission determines to be necessary,

1	based on the environmental assessment per-
2	formed and comments received under this sec-
3	tion.
4	SEC. 5. DEADLINE.
5	Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment
6	of this Act, the Commission shall—
7	(1) make a final decision pursuant to para-
8	graph (1) of section 2; and
9	(2) if the Commission decides to reinstate 1 or
10	both of the licenses under such paragraph and ex-
11	tend the corresponding deadline for commencement
12	of construction under paragraph (2) of such section,
13	complete the action required under section 3.
14	SEC. 6. PROTECTION OF EXISTING RIGHTS.
15	Nothing in this Act shall affect any valid license
16	issued by the Commission under section 4 of the Federal
17	Power Act (16 U.S.C. 797) on or before the date of enact-
18	ment of this Act or diminish or extinguish any existing
19	rights under any such license.

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