

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7556

To establish a working group to coordinate regulatory oversight of liquefied natural gas facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2024

Mr. WEBER of Texas (for himself and Mrs. FLETCHER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a working group to coordinate regulatory oversight of liquefied natural gas facilities, 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 “LNG Coordination Act
5 of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS REGULATORY COORDI-**
2 **NATION.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The Secretary
4 of Transportation shall establish and convene a Liquefied
5 Natural Gas Regulatory Safety Working Group through
6 the National Center of Excellence for Liquefied Natural
7 Gas Safety to clarify the authority of covered agencies in
8 the authorizing and oversight of LNG facilities, other than
9 peak shaving facilities, and improve coordination of the
10 authority of such agencies.

11 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Working Group shall
13 consist of representatives of covered agencies des-
14 ignated by the Secretary of Transportation or the
15 head of a covered agency.

16 (2) CHAIR.—The Administrator of the Pipeline
17 and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, or
18 a designee of the Administrator, shall serve as the
19 Chair of the Working Group, unless another member
20 of the Working Group is selected by unanimous con-
21 sent of the members of the Working Group.

22 (3) RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHAIR.—The Chair
23 of the Working Group shall establish an agenda and
24 schedule for the Working Group to accomplish the
25 requirements described in subsection (c).

26 (c) EVALUATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Working Group shall
2 evaluate the authorities of each covered agency per-
3 taining to the siting and design, construction, oper-
4 ation and maintenance, and operational and process
5 safety regulations of LNG facilities.

6 (2) NEGOTIATION.—The Working Group shall
7 negotiate the terms of agreements or memorandums
8 between each covered agency pursuant to subsection
9 (d) to establish procedures for—

10 (A) the application of the respective au-
11 thorities of each Federal agency in a manner
12 that ensures, through effective regulation, that
13 LNG facilities are safe and in the public inter-
14 est;

15 (B) resolving conflicts concerning overlap-
16 ping jurisdiction among the covered agencies;
17 and

18 (C) avoiding, to the extent possible and if
19 appropriate, conflicting or duplicative regula-
20 tion, inspection protocols, and reporting obliga-
21 tions between the covered agencies.

22 (d) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS AND MEMORAN-
23 DUMS OF UNDERSTANDING.—Not later than 2 years after
24 the date of enactment of this Act, the covered agencies
25 shall enter into interagency agreements or memorandums

1 of understanding with respect to best practices and indi-
2 vidual agency safety oversight and enforcement respon-
3 sibilities regarding LNG facilities, other than peak shav-
4 ing facilities.

5 (e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year
6 after the date on which the covered agencies enter into
7 agreements or memorandums under subsection (d), the
8 Secretary of Transportation shall submit to the Com-
9 mittee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on
10 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
11 resentatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science,
12 and Transportation of the Senate a report on such agree-
13 ments or memorandums entered into and how such agree-
14 ments or memorandums have contributed to the improved
15 safety and enforcement oversight coordination of LNG fa-
16 cilities.

17 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) COVERED AGENCY.—The term “covered
19 agency” means each of the following:

20 (A) The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
21 Safety Administration.

22 (B) The Federal Energy Regulatory Com-
23 mission.

24 (C) The Department of Energy.

1 (D) The Occupational Safety and Health
2 Administration.

3 (E) The Coast Guard.

4 (2) LNG.—The term “LNG” means liquefied
5 natural gas.

6 (3) WORKING GROUP.—The term “Working
7 Group” means the Liquefied Natural Gas Regu-
8 latory Safety Working Group established under sub-
9 section (a).

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