

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8383

To amend the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 to improve provisions relating to the development of hydropower at Corps of Engineers facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2022

Ms. KUSTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 to improve provisions relating to the development of hydropower at Corps of Engineers 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. EXPEDITING HYDROPOWER AT CORPS OF EN-**
4 **GINEERS FACILITIES.**

5 Section 1008 of the Water Resources Reform and De-
6 velopment Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C. 2321b) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “and to
2 meet the requirements of subsection (b)” after
3 “projects”;

4 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as
5 subsections (c) and (d), respectively;

6 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY.—The Secretary
9 shall—

10 “(1) ensure that the policy described in section
11 (a) is implemented nationwide in an efficient, con-
12 sistent, and coordinated manner; and

13 “(2) assess opportunities—

14 “(A) to increase the development of hydro-
15 electric power at existing hydroelectric water re-
16 sources development projects of the Corps of
17 Engineers; and

18 “(B) to develop new hydroelectric power at
19 nonpowered water resources development
20 projects of the Corps of Engineers.”; and

21 (4) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(e) PROGRAM MANAGER FOR NON-FEDERAL HY-
23 DROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT.—

24 “(1) DESIGNATION.—The Chief of Engineers
25 shall designate an employee of the Corps of Engi-

1 neers as a Program Manager for Non-Federal Hy-
2 droelectric Power Development (referred to in this
3 subsection as the ‘Program Manager’).

4 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Program Manager
5 shall—

6 “(A) not be otherwise involved in the re-
7 view of any Corps of Engineers permit to de-
8 velop hydroelectric power at Corps of Engineers
9 civil works projects; and

10 “(B) be located at the headquarters office
11 of the Corps of Engineers.

12 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—With respect to the
13 development of non-Federal hydroelectric power at
14 Corps of Engineers civil works projects, the Program
15 Manager shall—

16 “(A) ensure timely and consistent review of
17 permits across Corps of Engineers districts and
18 levels;

19 “(B) answer questions within the Corps of
20 Engineers, or facilitate communication between
21 developers and the Corps of Engineers, con-
22 cerning Corps of Engineers permits;

23 “(C) answer questions from developers re-
24 garding the permitting process of the Corps of
25 Engineers;

1 “(D) coordinate with the Federal Energy
2 Regulatory Commission on licensing matters;

3 “(E) facilitate timely action on all aspects
4 of Federal permitting required for hydropower
5 development; and

6 “(F) ensure that new hydropower produc-
7 tions are designed and operated with environ-
8 mentally sustainable technologies and manage-
9 ment plans.

10 “(4) REPORTING.—Not later than 90 days after
11 the date of enactment of this subsection, the Chief
12 of Engineers shall submit to Congress a report on
13 the implementation of this subsection and subsection
14 (b).”.

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