

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9168

To require the Secretary of the Interior to annually submit to Congress, and make publicly available on a website, a report on decommissioning offshore oil and gas wells, platforms, and pipelines.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2024

Ms. PORTER (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. GRIJALVA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to annually submit to Congress, and make publicly available on a website, a report on decommissioning offshore oil and gas wells, platforms, and pipelines.

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 “Plug Offshore Wells
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORT ON DECOMMISSIONING OFF-**
2 **SHORE OIL AND GAS WELLS, PLATFORMS,**
3 **AND PIPELINES.**

4 (a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after
5 the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
6 the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to Congress, and
7 make publicly available on a website, a report that de-
8 scribes, with respect to the preceding year—

9 (1) the number of applications for decommis-
10 sioning an offshore oil and gas well, platform, or
11 pipeline that were required to be submitted pursuant
12 to subpart Q of part 250 of title 30, Code of Federal
13 Regulations (or any successor regulations) and the
14 number of such applications received by the Sec-
15 retary of the Interior;

16 (2) the number of offshore oil and gas wells,
17 platforms, and pipelines for which decommissioning
18 did not occur by the date required pursuant to sub-
19 part Q of part 250 of title 30, Code of Federal Reg-
20 ulations (or any successor regulations);

21 (3) the number of offshore oil and gas wells and
22 platforms approved for decommissioning in place;

23 (4) the length of any—

24 (A) offshore oil and gas pipelines that were
25 decommissioned in place pursuant to section

1 250.1750 of title 30, Code of Federal Regula-
2 tions (or any successor regulations);

3 (B) offshore oil and gas pipelines that were
4 removed pursuant to section 250.1752 of title
5 30, Code of Federal Regulations (or any suc-
6 cessor regulations); and

7 (C) offshore oil and gas pipelines that were
8 removed pursuant to section 250.1754 of title
9 30, Code of Federal Regulations (or any suc-
10 cessor regulations); and

11 (5) the status of enforcement actions, including
12 notices of incident of noncompliance, orders, cita-
13 tions, civil penalties, and disqualifications from fu-
14 ture offshore operations, by the Bureau of Safety
15 and Environmental Enforcement with respect to de-
16 commissioning offshore oil and gas wells, platforms,
17 and pipelines.

18 (b) DECOMMISSIONING.—In this section, the term
19 “decommissioning” has the meaning given such term in
20 section 250.1700 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations
21 (or any successor regulations).

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