

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3240

To enhance availability of critical energy information.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2007

Mr. BOUCHER (for himself and Mr. DINGELL) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To enhance availability of critical energy information.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds that—

5 (1) the Energy Information Administration's
6 data is critical not merely for analysis of the role of
7 energy in our economy and environment, but for the
8 effective functioning of domestic and international
9 energy markets;

10 (2) Federal and State policymakers rely on the
11 Energy Information Administration to collect and
12 report State level energy information needed for en-

1 energy policymaking, compliance with Federal and
2 State mandates, and for purposes of emergency en-
3 ergy preparedness and response;

4 (3) as policymakers consider and implement
5 policies to cut greenhouse gas emissions, accurate,
6 timely, and comparable State energy information be-
7 comes even more important;

8 (4) new and expanded sources of information
9 about energy demand and supply have become avail-
10 able and need to be incorporated in the Energy In-
11 formation Administration's data and analysis func-
12 tions;

13 (5) the Energy Information Administration
14 needs to maintain and enhance its ability to collect,
15 process, and analyze data while confronting broader
16 demands for information in greater detail; and

17 (6) budget and personnel constraints have
18 forced the Energy Information Administration to
19 curtail surveys relied upon by energy and financial
20 markets and could further defer important improve-
21 ments in the scope and quality of resulting informa-
22 tion.

23 **SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES.**

24 (a) 5-YEAR PLAN.—The Administrator of the Energy
25 Information Administration shall establish a 5-year plan

1 to enhance the quality and scope of the data collection nec-
2 essary to ensure the scope, accuracy, and timeliness of the
3 information needed for efficient functioning of energy
4 markets and related financial operations. Particular atten-
5 tion shall be paid to restoring data series terminated be-
6 cause of budget constraints, data on demand response,
7 timely data series of State-level information, improve-
8 ments in the area of oil and gas data, and the ability to
9 provide data mandated by Congress promptly and com-
10 pletely.

11 (b) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—The Administrator
12 shall submit this plan to Congress detailing improvements
13 needed to enhance the Energy Information Administra-
14 tion’s ability to collect and process energy information in
15 a manner consistent with the needs of energy markets.

16 (c) GUIDELINES.—The Administrator shall—

17 (1) establish guidelines to ensure the quality,
18 comparability, and scope of State energy data, in-
19 cluding data on energy production and consumption
20 by product and sector and renewable and alternative
21 sources, required to provide a comprehensive, accu-
22 rate energy profile at the State level;

23 (2) share company-level data collected at the
24 State level with the State involved, provided the

1 State has agreed to reasonable guidelines for its use
2 adopted by the Administrator;

3 (3) assess any existing gaps in data obtained by
4 and compiled by the Energy Information Adminis-
5 tration; and

6 (4) evaluate the most cost effective ways to ad-
7 dress any data quality and quantity issues in con-
8 junction with State officials.

9 The Energy Information Administration shall consult with
10 State officials and the Federal Energy Regulatory Com-
11 mission on a regular basis in establishing these guidelines
12 and scope of State level data, as well as in exploring ways
13 to address data needs and serve data uses.

14 (d) ASSESSMENT OF STATE DATA NEEDS.—The Ad-
15 ministrator shall provide an assessment of these State-
16 level data needs to the Congress not later than 1 year after
17 the date of enactment of this Act, detailing a plan to ad-
18 dress the needs identified.

19 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
20 are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator for
21 carrying out this section, in addition to any other author-
22 izations—

23 (1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

24 (2) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

25 (3) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

- 1 (4) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;
- 2 (5) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2012; and
- 3 (6) such sums as are necessary for subsequent
- 4 fiscal years.

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