

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2877

To require the Secretary of the Interior to determine the impact of leasing Federal lands for coal mining, on the existing mining industry prior to issuing Federal coal mining leases, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 5, 1993

Mr. BARLOW (for himself and Mr. RAHALL) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to determine the impact of leasing Federal lands for coal mining, on the existing mining industry prior to issuing Federal coal mining leases, 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 “Federal Coal Equity  
5 Act of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL COAL LEASING CONSIDERATIONS.**

2 Section 2(a)(3) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30  
3 U.S.C. 201(a)(3)) is amended by adding the following new  
4 subparagraph at the end thereof:

5 “(F)(i) Prior to the issuance of any coal lease under  
6 this Act, the Secretary shall consider the economic impact  
7 that mining under the proposed lease might have on com-  
8 petition in the coal industry and whether there is sufficient  
9 market demand for the additional coal to be mined under  
10 such proposed lease. Included in this consideration shall  
11 be a determination as to whether production of coal from  
12 the proposed lease would lead to the displacement of coal  
13 produced from existing mining operations that have rea-  
14 sonably and economically served existing markets. In the  
15 event the Secretary makes a determination that produc-  
16 tion of coal would lead to such displacement, the Secretary  
17 shall not issue the lease.”

18 “(ii) This subparagraph shall not apply to the issu-  
19 ance of a coal lease that would in the reasonably foresee-  
20 able future, prevent the bypass of Federal coal deposits,  
21 and that would provide for the expansion of existing min-  
22 ing operations.”.

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