

Ayuyu and the late Corbiniano Songao Ayuyu, whose support he recalls each time he celebrates mass with the challenge that was a gift from them.

In our faith-based community, priests are ever in demand. Pale' Ike baptizes the newly born and conducts funeral rights for the recently departed. He tends to the spirit of those who are homebound or in hospitals. And he conducts weddings, he hears confessions, he says mass.

Outside of this tradition of priestly duties, he also has a lead role in community functions. Where there is a large family gathering, he is expected to attend. When someone builds a new home, Pale' Ike is called upon to bless it.

For your 25 years in the priesthood and as part of our daily life, thank you, Pale' Ike.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Brittany Seabury, District Director, the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON, Member of Congress:

OCTOBER 17, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a deposition subpoena for documents and testimony by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas to appear as a witness in a pending civil lawsuit.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

BRITTANY SEABURY,
District Director for
U.S. Representative John Abney Culberson.

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Sincerely,

JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON,
Member of Congress.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1615

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RUNYAN) at 4 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

KANTISHNA HILLS RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 441) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for a microhydro project in nonwilderness areas within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve, to acquire land for Denali National Park and Preserve from Doyon Tourism, Inc., and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 441

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Kantishna Hills Renewable Energy Act of 2011".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPURTENANCE.—The term "appurtenance" includes—

(A) transmission lines;

(B) distribution lines;

(C) signs;

(D) buried communication lines;

(E) necessary access routes for microhydro project construction, operation, and maintenance; and

(F) electric cables.

(2) KANTISHNA HILLS AREA.—The term "Kantishna Hills area" means the area of the Park located within 2 miles of Moose Creek, as depicted on the map.

(3) MAP.—The term "map" means the map entitled "Kantishna Hills Micro-Hydro Area", numbered 184/80,276, and dated August 27, 2010.

(4) MICROHYDRO PROJECT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "microhydro project" means a hydroelectric power generating facility with a maximum power generation capability of 100 kilowatts.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term "microhydro project" includes—

(i) intake pipelines, including the intake pipeline located on Eureka Creek, approximately 1/2 mile upstream from the Park Road, as depicted on the map;

(ii) each system appurtenance of the microhydro projects; and

(iii) any distribution or transmission lines required to serve the Kantishna Hills area.

(5) PARK.—The term "Park" means the Denali National Park and Preserve.

(6) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. PERMITS FOR MICROHYDRO PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may issue permits for microhydro projects in the Kantishna Hills area.

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Each permit under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) issued in accordance with such terms and conditions as are generally applicable to rights-of-way within units of the National Park System; and

(2) subject to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(c) COMPLETION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which an applicant submits an application for the issuance of a permit under this section, the Secretary shall complete any analysis required by the National Environment Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) of any proposed or existing microhydro projects located in the Kantishna Hills area.

SEC. 4. LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of consolidating ownership of Park and Doyon Tourism, Inc. lands, including those lands affected solely by the Doyon Tourism microhydro project, and subject to subsection (d), the Secretary may exchange Park land near or adjacent to land owned by Doyon Tourism, Inc., located at the mouth of Eureka Creek in sec. 13, T.16 S., R. 18 W., Fairbanks Meridian, for approximately 18 acres of land owned by Doyon Tourism, Inc., within the Galena patented mining claim.

(b) MAP AVAILABILITY.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(c) TIMING.—The Secretary shall seek to complete the exchange under this section by not later than February 1, 2015.

(d) APPLICABLE LAWS; TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The exchange under this section shall be subject to—

(1) the laws (including regulations) and policies applicable to exchanges of land administered by the National Park Service, including the laws and policies concerning land appraisals, equalization of values, and environmental compliance; and

(2) such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(e) EQUALIZATION OF VALUES.—If the tracts proposed for exchange under this section are determined not to be equal in value, an equalization of values may be achieved by adjusting the quantity of acres described in subsection (a).

(f) ADMINISTRATION.—The land acquired by the Secretary pursuant to the exchange under this section shall be administered as part of the Park.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 441, the Kantishna Hills Renewable Energy Act, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for a microhydro project within a nonwilderness area of Denali National Park. Additionally, it will facilitate a small land exchange between the National Park Service and Doyon, Ltd., which owns and operates the facilities that will take advantage of the proposed microhydro project. Finally, at the request of the National Park Service, this bill will allow the Park Service to permit similar projects that exist or may exist in the future. Roughly only six acres of land would be affected.

Doyon is one of 13 Alaska Native Regional Corporations formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Currently, the facilities at Kantishna, which are located at the end of a 90-mile park road, operate exclusively off diesel fuel. Not being connected to any grid system, the roadhouse must produce all its energy onsite. This means trucking thousands of gallons of diesel fuel over the long and treacherous park road. Energy created by this microhydro project could cut the roadhouse's diesel usage in half and drastically reduce the need of these trips.

Down the road at the new Eielson Visitor Center, the National Park Service operates a similar microhydro project to great success, and the Kantishna Roadhouse seeks to take advantage of similar technology that could help rid their reliance on costly diesel fuel.

Working with both the National Park Service and Doyon, we have before us a bill that was crafted in a truly collaborative fashion that is a win-win that lowers the fossil fuel use in the park, lowers costs for the lodge operators, and protects park resources.

I urge adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I really must commend my colleague and my friend, Mr. YOUNG, on the introduction of this piece of legislation as we're looking for more individual entities to go to green energy and save fossil fuel. Besides, it saves many other things that we've talked about in our committees and subcommittees, so I'm glad to see this, Mr. YOUNG.

We fully support projects designated to reduce the pollution caused by the use of fossil fuels. In this instance, a small hydroelectric project will be used to supply some of the power currently being generated by a diesel generator for a backcountry lodge.

□ 1620

The project will also reduce the number of trips needed to haul diesel fuel into the park. Hopefully, the National Park Service can find many other units where cleaner energy technology can be employed and thus save everybody some heartache.

I commend, again, my colleague and my friend for introduction of this piece of legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I again urge the passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 441, "The Kantishna Hills Renewable Energy Act of 2011," which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for microhydro projects in the Kantishna Hills area within the Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska. These projects will harness the power of water to create up to 100 kilowatts of electricity that will be used to serve much of the area.

As the Representative from the 18th Congressional District in Houston, TX, our nation's energy capital, I firmly believe in supporting viable renewable energy projects. In my home state the energy industry and its supporting businesses has created thousands of jobs and has fostered economic growth. It is imperative that we find ways to meet our nation's grown appetite for energy.

According to the National Hydropower Association, in the United States hydropower projects are responsible for providing 81 percent of the nation's renewable electricity generation and about 10 percent of the nation's total electricity. In terms of everyday use, this is enough to power 37.8 million homes.

The average Americans consumes 10,896 kilowatts of electricity each year. In Texas, alone, over 9 million residences are using electricity, at a rate of about 1,000 kilowatts a month. This costs Texans an estimated \$141.23 a month in electric bills. At a time when we are all tightening our belts. If one of our solutions can be found by simply harnessing water, then it deserves more than a second glance.

Water has been used as a power source for centuries, from Africa to Asia to Europe. As of today, there are 85,000 small-scale hydro power plants in China alone. We are not talking about large-scale projects that have an impact on wildlife habitats.

A large-scale hydro project often requires a sizeable dam. These large-scale dams have raised numerous environmental concerns. Micro projects have significantly less impact on the environment because they use the natural flow of a river and make only minute modifications to the stream channel and flow of water in order to generate power.

Before us, today, are renewable energy projects that will have a marginal impact on the environment (when compared to large-scale plants); a project that will create jobs; and a project that will create much needed energy. On balance this project appears to find symmetry between protecting the environment, creating jobs and meeting our nation's energy needs.

I believe that finding ways to address and meet our growing energy needs is vital to the economic success of our nation. We should

allow the expansion of renewable energy projects that have a limited impact on the environment, will create jobs, and will meet our energy needs. I believe working with the energy community to bolster creative industry approaches and protecting our environment will result in job creation. I believe that sound energy policies not only will protect our environment but are important to the long term health and wellbeing of our citizens.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 441, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for microhydro projects in nonwilderness areas within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve, to acquire land for Denali National Park and Preserve from Doyon Tourism, Inc., and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZATION OF HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES SPECIFIC TO THE ARCTIC.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 295) to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 295

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d) is amended—

(1) by inserting before the text the following: "(a) IN GENERAL.—"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b) ARCTIC PROGRAMS.—Of the amount authorized by this section for fiscal year 2012—

"(1) \$5,000,000 is authorized for use to acquire hydrographic data, provide hydrographic services, conduct coastal change analyses necessary to ensure safe navigation, and improve the management of coastal change in the Arctic; and

"(2) \$2,000,000 is authorized for use to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services in the Arctic necessary to delineate the United States extended Continental Shelf."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.