

Foxx	LoBiondo	Rohrabacher
Frankel (FL)	Loebsock	Rokita
Franks (AZ)	Loeb	Rooney (FL)
Frelinghuysen	Love	Ros-Lehtinen
Fudge	Lowenthal	Roskam
Gabbard	Lowe	Ross
Gallego	Lucas	Rothfus
Garamendi	Luetkemeyer	Rouzer
Garrett	Lujan Grisham	Roybal-Allard
Gibbs	(NM)	Royce
Gibson	Luján, Ben Ray	Ruiz
Gohmert	(NM)	Ruppersberger
Goodlatte	Lummis	Rush
Gosar	Lynch	Russell
Gowdy	MacArthur	Ryan (OH)
Graham	Maloney,	Salmon
Graves (GA)	Carolyn	Sánchez, Linda
Graves (LA)	Maloney, Sean	T.
Graves (MO)	Marchant	Sanford
Grayson	Marino	Scalise
Green, Al	Massie	Schiff
Green, Gene	Matsui	Schrader
Griffith	McCarthy	Schweikert
Grijalva	McCaul	Scott (VA)
Grothman	McCollum	Scott, David
Guinta	McDermott	Sensenbrenner
Guthrie	McGovern	Serrano
Gutiérrez	McHenry	Sessions
Hahn	McKinley	Sewell (AL)
Hanna	McMorris	Sherman
Hardy	Rodgers	Shimkus
Harper	McNerney	Shuster
Harris	McSally	Simpson
Hartzler	Meadows	Sinema
Hastings	Meehan	Sires
Heck (NV)	Meeks	Smith (MO)
Heck (WA)	Meng	Smith (NE)
Hensarling	Messer	Smith (NJ)
Hice, Jody B.	Mica	Smith (TX)
Higgins	Miller (FL)	Smith (WA)
Hill	Moolenaar	Stefanik
Himes	Mooney (WV)	Stewart
Hinojosa	Moore	Stivers
Holding	Moulton	Stutzman
Honda	Mullin	Swalwell (CA)
Hoyer	Mulvaney	Takano
Hudson	Murphy (FL)	Thompson (CA)
Hultgren	Murphy (PA)	Thompson (MS)
Hunter	Nadler	Thompson (PA)
Hurd (TX)	Napolitano	Thornberry
Hurt (VA)	Neal	Tiberi
Israel	Neugebauer	Tipton
Issa	Newhouse	Titus
Jeffries	Noem	Torres
Jenkins (KS)	Nolan	Trott
Jenkins (WV)	Norcross	Tsongas
Johnson (GA)	Nugent	Turner
Johnson (OH)	Nunes	Upton
Johnson, E. B.	Olson	Valadao
Johnson, Sam	Palazzo	Van Hollen
Jolly	Pallone	Vargas
Jones	Palmer	Veasey
Jordan	Pascrell	Vela
Joyce	Paulsen	Velázquez
Kaptur	Payne	Visclosky
Katko	Pearce	Wagner
Keating	Pelosi	Walberg
Kelly (IL)	Perlmutter	Walden
Kelly (MS)	Perry	Walker
Kelly (PA)	Peters	Walorski
Kennedy	Peterson	Walters, Mimi
Kildee	Pittenger	Walz
Kilmer	Pitts	Wasserman
Kind	Pocan	Schultz
King (IA)	Poe (TX)	Watson Coleman
King (NY)	Poliquin	Weber (TX)
Kinzinger (IL)	Polis	Webster (FL)
Kirkpatrick	Pompeo	Welch
Kline	Posey	Wenstrup
Knight	Price (NC)	Westerman
Kuster	Price, Tom	Westmoreland
Labrador	Quigley	Whitfield
LaHood	Rangel	Williams
LaMalfa	Ratcliffe	Wilson (FL)
Lamborn	Reed	Wilson (SC)
Lance	Reichert	Wittman
Langevin	Renacci	Womack
Larsen (WA)	Ribble	Woodall
Larson (CT)	Rice (NY)	Yarmuth
Latta	Rice (SC)	Yoder
Lawrence	Richmond	Yoho
Lee	Rigell	Young (AK)
Levin	Roby	Young (IA)
Lewis	Roe (TN)	Young (IN)
Lieu, Ted	Rogers (AL)	Zeldin
Lipinski	Rogers (KY)	Zinke

NAYS—12

Buck	Loftgren	Schakowsky
Clarke (NY)	McClintock	Slaughter
Duncan (TN)	Pingree	Speier
Huffman	Sarbanes	Tonko

NOT VOTING—18

Allen	Granger	Miller (MI)
Bass	Herrera Beutler	O'Rourke
Castro (TX)	Huelskamp	Sanchez, Loretta
Collins (GA)	Huizenga (MI)	Scott, Austin
Fattah	Jackson Lee	Takai
Fincher	Loudermilk	Waters, Maxine

□ 1716

So the motion to concur was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 2012, ENERGY POLICY MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2016; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5233, CLARIFYING CONGRESSIONAL INTENT IN PROVIDING FOR DC HOME RULE ACT OF 2016; AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM MAY 27, 2016, THROUGH JUNE 6, 2016

Mr. BURGESS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-593) on the resolution (H. Res. 744) providing for consideration of the bill (S. 2012) to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5233) to repeal the Local Budget Autonomy Amendment Act of 2012, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to clarify the respective roles of the District government and Congress in the local budget process of the District government, and for other purposes; and providing for proceedings during the period from May 27, 2016, through June 6, 2016, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3765

Mr. JOLLY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be withdrawn as a cosponsor of H.R. 3765.

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

There was no objection.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5055 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois). Is there ob-

jection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 743 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 5055.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1720

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 5055) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes, with Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) and the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is my distinct honor to bring this fiscal year 2017 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act before you today.

Before I go into the details, I would like to recognize the hard work of Chairman ROGERS and Ranking Member LOWEY on this bill and in the appropriations process in our trying to get back to regular order.

I would also like to thank my ranking member, Ms. KAPTUR. I appreciate her help and her hard work on this bill. This bill is a better bill because of her input on this legislation.

The bill provides \$37.4 billion for the activities of the Department of Energy, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and other agencies under our jurisdiction. This is \$259 million more than last year's funding level and is \$168 million above the budget request.

This is a responsible bill that recognizes the importance of investing in this Nation's infrastructure and national defense. As we do each year, we work hard to incorporate priorities and perspectives from both sides of the aisle.

The administration's proposal to cut the programs of the Army Corps of Engineers by \$1.4 billion would have led to economic disruptions at our ports and waterways silted in and would have left our communities and businesses vulnerable to flooding. Instead, this bill recognizes the critical work of the Corps and provides \$6.1 billion for those activities. This includes \$1.8 billion for flood and coastal storm damage reduction projects. These projects prevented

damages of \$14.8 billion in 2014 alone. Harbor maintenance activities are funded at \$1.26 billion, the same as last year, and \$122 million more than the fiscal year 2017 target. The bill makes use of all estimated annual revenues from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund.

The Department of Energy's nuclear weapons program is funded at \$9.3 billion, which is \$438 million more than last year. This increase will support full funding for the stockpile life extension programs. It also includes an additional \$106 million above the request to address the growing backlog of deferred maintenance and \$30 million above the request to upgrade the secu-

rity infrastructure where nuclear weapons material is stored. The recommendation for naval reactors is \$1.4 billion, an increase of \$45 million, and includes full funding for the Ohio-class replacement submarine.

A national energy policy can only be successful if it maintains stability while investing in a secure, independent, and prosperous energy future. This bill makes balanced investments in a true all-of-the-above energy strategy. This bill also takes a strong stand against the regulatory overreach and extreme application of laws that have been the hallmark of this administration.

The bill opposes the administration's actions with regard to the Clean Water

Act and includes three provisions that prohibit changes to the definition of "fill material," the definition of "waters of the United States," and the permit requirement for certain agricultural activities.

The bill also includes several provisions to ensure that the Bureau of Reclamation maximizes water deliveries in California to help alleviate the drought while sustaining senior water rights and maintaining environmental protections.

This is a strong bill that will advance our national security interests and our economy, and I urge everyone to support it.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FY 2017 (H.R. 5055)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - CIVIL					
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY					
Corps of Engineers - Civil					
Investigations.....	121,000	85,000	120,000	-1,000	+35,000
Construction.....	1,862,250	1,090,000	1,945,580	+83,330	+855,580
Mississippi River and Tributaries.....	345,000	222,000	345,000	---	+123,000
Operations and Maintenance.....	3,137,000	2,705,000	3,157,000	+20,000	+452,000
Regulatory Program.....	200,000	200,000	200,000	---	---
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).....	112,000	103,000	103,000	-9,000	---
Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies.....	28,000	30,000	34,000	+6,000	+4,000
Expenses.....	179,000	180,000	180,000	+1,000	---
Office of Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works).....	4,750	5,000	4,750	---	-250
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title I, Department of Defense - Civil... Appropriations.....	5,989,000 (5,989,000)	4,620,000 (4,620,000)	6,089,330 (6,089,330)	+100,330 (+100,330)	+1,469,330 (+1,469,330)
Rescissions.....	---	---	---	---	---
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR					
Central Utah Project Completion Account					
Central Utah Project Completion Account..... Bureau of Reclamation	10,000	5,600	11,000	+1,000	+5,400
Water and Related Resources.....	1,118,972	813,402	982,972	-136,000	+169,570
Central Valley Project Restoration Fund.....	49,528	55,606	55,606	+6,078	---
California Bay-Delta Restoration.....	37,000	36,000	36,000	-1,000	---
Policy and Administration.....	59,500	59,000	59,000	-500	---
Indian Water Rights Settlements.....	---	106,151	---	---	-106,151
San Joaquin River Restoration Fund.....	---	36,000	---	---	-36,000
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total, Bureau of Reclamation.....	1,265,000	1,106,159	1,133,578	-131,422	+27,419
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title II, Department of the Interior.... Appropriations.....	1,275,000 (1,275,000)	1,111,759 (1,111,759)	1,144,578 (1,144,578)	-130,422 (-130,422)	+32,819 (+32,819)
Rescissions.....	---	---	---	---	---
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY					
Energy Programs					
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.....	2,073,000	2,898,400	1,825,000	-248,000	-1,073,400
Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.....	208,000	262,300	225,000	+19,000	-37,300
Nuclear Energy.....	860,000	842,020	875,000	+15,000	+32,980
Defense function.....	126,161	151,876	136,616	+10,455	-15,260
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Subtotal.....	986,161	993,896	1,011,616	+25,455	+17,720
Fossil Energy Research and Development.....	632,000	360,000	645,000	+13,000	+285,000
Office of Technology Transitions.....	---	8,400	7,000	+7,000	-1,400
Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves.....	17,500	14,950	14,950	-2,550	---
Strategic Petroleum Reserve.....	212,000	257,000	257,000	+45,000	---
Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve.....	7,600	6,500	6,500	-1,100	---
Energy Information Administration.....	122,000	131,125	122,000	---	-9,125
Non-defense Environmental Cleanup.....	255,000	218,400	226,745	-28,255	+8,345
Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund.....	673,749	---	698,540	+24,791	+698,540
Science.....	5,350,200	5,572,069	5,400,000	+49,800	-172,069

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FY 2017 (H.R. 5055)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Nuclear Waste Disposal.....	---	---	150,000	+150,000	+150,000
Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy.....	291,000	350,000	305,889	+14,889	-44,111
Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs.....	---	22,930	---	---	-22,930
Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program.	42,000	37,000	37,000	-5,000	---
Offsetting collection.....	-25,000	-30,000	-30,000	-5,000	---
Proposed change in subsidy cost.....	---	1,020,000	---	---	-1,020,000
Subtotal.....	17,000	1,027,000	7,000	-10,000	-1,020,000
Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loans program.....	6,000	5,000	5,000	-1,000	---
Departmental Administration.....	248,142	270,037	233,971	-14,171	-36,066
Miscellaneous revenues.....	-117,171	-103,000	-103,000	+14,171	---
Net appropriation.....	130,971	167,037	130,971	---	-36,066
Office of the Inspector General.....	46,424	44,424	44,424	-2,000	---
Total, Energy programs.....	11,026,605	12,339,431	11,082,635	+56,030	-1,256,796
Atomic Energy Defense Activities					
National Nuclear Security Administration					
Weapons Activities.....	8,846,948	9,285,147	9,285,147	+438,199	---
Rescission.....	---	-42,000	-42,000	-42,000	---
Budget amendment rescission.....	---	-8,400	---	---	+8,400
Subtotal.....	8,846,948	9,234,747	9,243,147	+396,199	+8,400
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation.....	1,940,302	1,821,916	1,821,916	-118,386	---
Rescission.....	---	-14,000	-14,000	-14,000	---
Subtotal.....	1,940,302	1,807,916	1,807,916	-132,386	---
Naval Reactors.....	1,375,496	1,420,120	1,420,120	+44,624	---
Federal Salaries and Expenses.....	383,666	412,817	382,387	-1,279	-30,430
Rescission.....	-19,900	---	---	+19,900	---
Subtotal.....	363,766	412,817	382,387	+18,621	-30,430
Total, National Nuclear Security Administration.	12,526,512	12,875,600	12,853,570	+327,058	-22,030
Environmental and Other Defense Activities					
Defense Environmental Cleanup.....	5,289,742	5,226,950	5,226,950	-62,792	---
Budget amendment.....	---	8,400	---	---	-8,400
Subtotal.....	5,289,742	5,235,350	5,226,950	-62,792	-8,400
Defense Environmental cleanup (Legislative proposal)..	---	155,100	---	---	-155,100
Other Defense Activities.....	776,425	791,552	776,425	---	-15,127
Total, Environmental and Other Defense Activities.....	6,066,167	6,182,002	6,003,375	-62,792	-178,627
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities.....	18,592,679	19,057,602	18,856,945	+264,266	-200,657

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FY 2017 (H.R. 5055)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Power Marketing Administrations /1					
Operation and maintenance, Southeastern Power					
Administration.....	6,900	1,000	1,000	-5,900	---
Offsetting collections.....	-6,900	-1,000	-1,000	+5,900	---
Subtotal.....	---	---	---	---	---
Operation and maintenance, Southwestern Power					
Administration.....	47,361	45,643	45,643	-1,718	---
Offsetting collections.....	-35,961	-34,586	-34,586	+1,375	---
Subtotal.....	11,400	11,057	11,057	-343	---
Construction, Rehabilitation, Operation and Maintenance, Western Area Power Administration.....					
Administration.....	307,714	307,144	307,144	-570	---
Offsetting collections.....	-214,342	-211,563	-211,563	+2,779	---
Subtotal.....	93,372	95,581	95,581	+2,209	---
Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund.....					
Administration.....	4,490	4,070	4,070	-420	---
Offsetting collections.....	-4,262	-3,838	-3,838	+424	---
Subtotal.....	228	232	232	+4	---
Total, Power Marketing Administrations.....	105,000	106,870	106,870	+1,870	---
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	319,800	346,800	346,800	+27,000	---
Revenues applied.....	-319,800	-346,800	-346,800	-27,000	---
General Provisions					
Title III Rescissions:					
Department of Energy:					
Energy Efficiency and Energy Reliability.....	-3,806	---	---	+3,806	---
Science.....	-3,200	---	---	+3,200	---
Weapons activities (050).....	---	---	-64,126	-64,126	-64,126
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation (050).....	---	---	-19,128	-19,128	-19,128
Naval Reactors (050).....	---	---	-307	-307	-307
Subtotal.....	-7,006	---	-83,561	-76,555	-83,561
Total, title III, Department of Energy.....	29,717,278	31,503,903	29,962,889	+245,611	-1,541,014
Appropriations.....	(29,744,184)	(31,568,303)	(30,102,450)	(+358,266)	(-1,465,853)
Rescissions.....	(-26,906)	(-64,400)	(-139,561)	(-112,655)	(-75,161)
TITLE IV - INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Appalachian Regional Commission.....	146,000	120,000	146,000	---	+26,000
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.....	29,150	31,000	31,000	+1,850	---
Delta Regional Authority.....	25,000	15,936	15,000	-10,000	-936
Denali Commission.....	11,000	15,000	11,000	---	-4,000
Northern Border Regional Commission.....	7,500	5,000	5,000	-2,500	---
Southeast Crescent Regional Commission.....	250	---	250	---	+250
Nuclear Regulatory Commission:					
Salaries and expenses.....	990,000	970,163	936,121	-53,879	-34,042
Revenues.....	-872,864	-851,161	-786,853	+86,011	+64,308
Subtotal.....	117,136	119,002	149,268	+32,132	+30,266
Office of Inspector General.....	12,136	12,129	12,129	-7	---
Revenues.....	-10,060	-10,044	-10,044	+16	---
Subtotal.....	2,076	2,085	2,085	+9	---
Total, Nuclear Regulatory Commission.....	119,212	121,087	151,353	+32,141	+30,266

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FY 2017 (H.R. 5055)
 (Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.....	3,600	3,600	3,600	---	---
Total, title IV, Independent agencies.....	341,712	311,623	363,203	+21,491	+51,580
Appropriations.....	(341,712)	(311,623)	(363,203)	(+21,491)	(+51,580)
Grand total.....	37,322,990	37,547,285	37,560,000	+237,010	+12,715
Appropriations.....	(37,349,896)	(37,611,685)	(37,699,561)	(+349,665)	(+87,876)
Rescissions.....	(-26,906)	(-64,400)	(-139,561)	(-112,655)	(-75,161)

1/ Totals adjusted to net out alternative financing costs, reimbursable agreement funding, and power purchase and wheeling expenditures. Offsetting collection totals only reflect funds collected for annual expenses, excluding power purchase wheeling

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank Chairman SIMPSON for his bipartisan approach in preparing this bill. I also thank Chairman HAL ROGERS and Ranking Member NITA LOWEY for their efforts throughout.

To our dedicated staff—Donna Shahbaz and Taunja Berquam, the Republican and Democratic clerks, as well as the rest of the committee staff: Matt Anderson, Angie Giancarlo, Lorraine Heckenberg, and Perry Yates—their countless long hours, late nights, weekends, and thoughtful insight are so critical to helping America prepare this legislation.

This bill funds transformative programs that unlock America's full economic potential, critical water resource projects, navigation and port operability, and breakthrough science advancements that are necessary for America's strategic and competitive posture. This bill undergirds our national defense through superior weapons, naval reactor research, and non-proliferation activities—all priorities that unite rather than divide us.

Chairman SIMPSON worked hard to incorporate the interests of Members from both parties. As a result, the bill's funding reflects priorities from both sides of the aisle. The chairman's efforts resulted in a bill which, with respect to funding levels, is reasonable; although, the trade-offs are not ideal.

The bill provides an increase of \$259 million over the 2016 levels. It allows for stronger investments in the Army Corps of Engineers for critical projects in the Everglades and Great Lakes as well as additional funding to address flooding in areas like Houston. Notably, for the people of northern Ohio, the bill meets the need to comply with State law prior to the open lake disposal of dredged materials. The bill also provides robust funding for many areas at the Department of Energy.

It is sad, however, that the majority would jeopardize this good start by adding in ill-suited ideological or non-germane riders on the Clean Water Act, guns on Army Corps' lands, National Ocean Policy, and the California drought. I should not have to remind our majority colleagues that similar provisions imperiled the passage of this bill in the past. In fiscal year 2016, nearly all of the Democratic Members of the House voted against this bill with far fewer poison pill riders. The administration is on record with veto threats over nearly identical language. As such, I cannot support this bill in its current form.

Every year, this important bill sets the path for America's energy future, and I am happy to note that, more than ever before, America's course is set toward the true north of energy independence. In 2015, America produced 91 percent of the total energy consumed. This represents the 10th consecutive year of declining net energy imports. This translates into freedom.

Significant strides toward America's energy security should be applauded, but we must not lose our momentum by resting on our laurels. To finally free ourselves from our energy dependence, as well as to drastically cut dangerous carbon emissions, we must strongly support the Department of Energy's efforts to embrace the future.

I am disappointed by the \$248 million cut, therefore, to the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, which is leading the charge into the new energy economy against stiff global competition from Europe and Asia. The solar energy account, in particular, yields serious benefits, with the solar industry projected to add 9.5 gigawatts of new energy this year—more than any other source. I am proud that my own district is active in this energy revolution, with First Solar, founded in Toledo, Ohio, the Nation's current leading solar company.

Wind energy is also expanding in northern Ohio, where the Great Lakes have the capacity to become the Saudi Arabia of wind, especially Lake Erie. Cleveland is poised to install the first national offshore wind turbines in a freshwater environment, and that is appropriate, given it was Cleveland where the first electric wind turbine was invented a century ago.

I would like to reiterate my concerns over the controversial riders that threaten not only the ultimate enactment of this bill but also our most precious resource—water. These provisions' inclusion does a disservice in our work, particularly given the serious water challenges many parts of our country face.

While I have concerns with the measure before us, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the chairman's hard work with us on so many issues. The gentleman from Idaho has ensured that the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee continues its tradition of bipartisanship, and he has been a gentleman throughout, as always.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1730

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), the chairman of the full committee that does a great job with this appropriations process.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Chair, I rise today to support this legislation that invests \$37.4 billion in bipartisan priorities: our national security, critical infrastructure, and American energy independence. In total, this is a \$259 million increase above current levels for these programs. This increase is directed almost entirely to our nuclear national security. With ever-changing threats that span the globe, it is imperative that our Nation stays at the very pinnacle of preparedness. This funding will help ensure that our stockpile is modern, secure, and ready

to face any nuclear threat that may arise.

Another priority in the bill is the infrastructure that helps our economy prosper. This includes robust funding for the Army Corps of Engineers, a total of \$6.1 billion, which is \$100 million above last year's levels, and \$1.5 billion above the President's request. This funding will go to activities that have a direct impact on public safety, that improve commerce and the movement of American products, and that support economic growth and job creation.

Lastly, Madam Chair, this bill advances an all-of-the-above energy strategy that will help the Nation move ever closer to our goal of energy independence. By investing in fossil fuels, nuclear, and other energy sources, we can help keep consumer energy prices affordable and make greater use of our domestic resources. This includes congressional efforts to support the Yucca Mountain nuclear repository for future use.

In order to make these targeted investments, the bill cuts back in other lower priority areas. Renewable energy programs, which have received significant investments in recent years, were cut by \$248 million from current levels.

The bill also prohibits tax dollars from being used for a harmful regulatory agenda that hampers our economy. This includes prohibiting funds for the Army Corps of Engineers to make any changes to Federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act, protecting American farmers and ranchers and other job creators. The bill also protects coal and other mining operations from onerous efforts to change the definition of "fill material" and "discharge of fill material."

In sum, this bill is an investment in the growth of our American economy, supporting functioning and safe water resources and continued strides toward energy independence.

I thank and congratulate Subcommittee Chairman SIMPSON, Ranking Member KAPTUR, and the other members of the subcommittee for their hard work on bringing this bill forward. I feel completely safe and comfortable in the work when Chairman SIMPSON is doing the bossing.

I also want to acknowledge the dedicated staff that helped bring this bill before the House today.

I urge my colleagues to help promote a more secure and more prosperous future for our Nation and vote "aye" on the bill.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY).

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, before I begin, I would like to thank Chairman SIMPSON, Ranking Member KAPTUR, and Chairman ROGERS for their work on the bill.

The energy and water bill is the second bill we will consider on the floor this year. Over and over again, the majority has promised a return to regular

order. Well, without a budget resolution and a full slate of 302(b) suballocations, this promise has clearly not been kept.

The fiscal year 2017 Energy and Water Development bill would allocate \$37.4 billion in discretionary funding, \$260 million above the fiscal year 2016 level and \$168 million above the administration's request. While this allocation is an improvement, the majority's continued dysfunction jeopardizes Congress' ability to meet the significant challenges we face, including many in the bill before us.

For instance, the bill does not adequately invest in infrastructure development. The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates the United States must invest \$3.6 trillion in our infrastructure to ensure public health and safety, and yet the Army Corps of Engineers is funded at \$6.089 billion, which is billions of dollars short of what we need to meet our infrastructure needs.

Additionally, this bill does not adequately fund programs to combat climate change. To truly tackle the challenges posed by climate change, the Federal Government must prioritize investments in research. Yet the energy efficiency and renewable energy account would be reduced to \$1.825 billion, a cut of \$248 million, and \$1.07 billion below the President's request. The Republican majority will continue to bury their heads in the sand and dismiss the science and consequences of climate change instead of taking action to save our planet.

However, the most concerning aspect of this bill is the inclusion of misguided and dangerous policy riders. An annual appropriations bill is not the place to amend or significantly change the Clean Water Act or restrict gun laws. These controversial riders, year after year, imperil the appropriations process.

Yet this year's energy and water bill would impede an effective and timely response to the continuing drought in California, permanently prohibit the Corps from changing the definition of "fill material," which is an interest of mountaintop mining companies, permanently prohibit the Army Corps of Engineers from clarifying the definition of navigable waters, expand the area in which guns can be carried on Corps of Engineers lands, and prevent implementation of the national ocean policy. Neither Democrats in Congress nor President Obama will agree to poison pill riders that harm our environment or public health.

Unfortunately, this bill fails to address our Nation's infrastructure needs, invest in job creation, and take appropriate action to combat climate change.

Given inadequate funding levels and the presence of harmful riders, I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE).

Mr. LANCE. Madam Chair, I rise today in strong support of this energy and water appropriations measure. The measure finally provides the critical funding to complete the Rahway River basin flood risk management feasibility study in New Jersey that will create a lasting solution to protect the communities of Cranford, Kenilworth, Maplewood, Millburn, Rahway, Springfield, Union, and the surrounding areas from severe flooding.

For years, these municipalities have pursued this project on its great merits, and I am proud to have been the champion of these municipalities on the Federal level. This is a critical role for Federal representatives effectively helping municipal, county, and State officials navigate the Federal Government and ensure efficient services to the areas they represent. These municipalities have experienced severe flooding from the Rahway River, and they deserve the completion of the study and the implementation of a plan that will protect life and property.

I thank the Mayors' Council and local leaders for continuing to advocate on behalf of their communities. I deeply thank Chairman SIMPSON and the Appropriations Committee for their thoughtful consideration of the study and their leadership during this process.

I urge a "yes" vote on the measure.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA), a very hardworking member of our subcommittee.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Chairwoman, I thank Chairman SIMPSON and Ranking Member KAPTUR for their hard work on this bill. It is an honor to serve with them on the subcommittee.

This bill contains many positive things that I support, like funding for the Army Corps of Engineers' construction account and programs that provide the Corps with critical oceans and weather data.

It also includes strong funding for energy storage technologies as well as provisions that support increasing access to solar and renewable energy and promote increasing energy efficiency through smart electronics.

However, there are many cuts that are problematic, particularly those to the energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. We have an opportunity now to lead the world in innovating the next generation of energy technologies, but we are hamstringing our ability to be competitive by underfunding critical energy programs.

Furthermore, I oppose the prohibition on the Department of Energy and Army Corps participating in marine and coastal planning efforts that are components of the National Ocean Policy. This provision is misguided and reduces our ability to protect our oceans, Great Lakes, and waterways that support our Nation's blue economy.

Coordinated ocean planning that encourages collaboration between stakeholders and Federal agencies will help

improve the management of our marine resources, and it is unwise to stop those conversations from happening.

Finally, I would also oppose the rider which would prohibit the Army Corps from enforcing the ban on firearms at water resources development projects. This provision unnecessarily creates an unsafe environment at these sites. Corps rangers are not authorized to carry firearms, and this provision also strips away the discretion that the Secretary of the Army currently has to enforce or revise the policy on a case-by-case basis.

Ultimately, appropriations bills are an exercise in setting spending priorities, and I disagree with many of the prioritizations that this bill makes. I hope we can work together as this bill moves forward to develop a bill that will invest in clean energy.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I just want to inquire how much time remains on this side before we move forward.

The CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Ohio has 19 minutes remaining.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for the tireless work that he has done on these appropriations.

I want to take a moment to thank another Representative, Representative DAVID VALADAO. It is rare to find a person so tirelessly devoted to his constituents. Every time the House passes legislation to address the drought crisis in California, DAVID VALADAO is at the center of it.

Like Congressman VALADAO, I also represent the people of the Central Valley of California. For too long, our constituents have been suffering, so I am going to put this as simply as possible. We need water.

California Republicans have tried for years—three Congresses now—to get a water bill signed into law to help the people of California. As the drought worsened and its reach grew, we tried last year to get legislation through the Senate that would help all the States in the West facing drought conditions. Unfortunately, Senate Democrats opposed the legislation and blocked it.

So we tried again. We added in provisions from my Republican colleagues and provisions supported by our California Senators, ideas both sides could support. We worked to make this bill as bipartisan as possible and focused on good policy. Again, our efforts were blocked.

But my constituents can't and won't take no for an answer. Water is not a luxury. It is a necessity, and we need it now more than ever. And it is very clear how we can get more water.

Now, earlier this year, bureaucrats allowed water from storms to flush out into the ocean instead of capturing it for our communities. Regulations and bad laws are keeping water from the

people who need it. We need more pumping, and we need more storage capturing more runoff.

□ 1745

Too many times our Senate Democratic colleagues have ignored or blocked action to help the people of California. So today, the Senate can no longer ignore it. They need to come to the table and negotiate with us in conference.

After all, this should not be controversial. We were elected to serve our constituents, and our constituents need water.

My colleagues and I have come back again and again to find an agreement because, as El Nino passes and the drought continues, our homes, our farms, and our people won't see relief until something is done. Now is the moment.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER), who is a very hard-working member of the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Chair, this appropriations bill would underfund the Office of Science by \$272 million below the President's request for the next fiscal year. Investments in the DOE Office of Science have long supported American innovation and discovery science.

It is unwise and, in fact, impossible to ignore the value of our national labs. They have helped us answer fundamental questions about how our universe works, supported breakthroughs in medicine and developments in industry that drive our economy. The Office of Science is not only an important investment in our future, it is a valuable investment in our economy.

Our national labs and the major user facilities housed at those labs are some of the greatest tools ever created for researchers and industry. The direct economic benefit of Argonne and Fermilab in Illinois alone is estimated to be more than \$1.3 billion annually. The indirect benefits of the technologies that they deliver is larger.

Those who seek to underfund and eliminate Federal programs often say that the private sector can do it better, but when it comes to fundamental scientific research, that is simply not the case.

The Office of Science is responsible for building and maintaining research facilities which many private companies rely on but are too big for any single business or university to develop. These user facilities, such as the advanced photon source at Argonne National Laboratory, are a critical research tool to academics and industry alike. For example, AbbVie, recently won FDA approval for a new leukemia drug that was developed because of the groundbreaking crystallography research done at Argonne's APS.

As other world powers are growing and challenging our position as a glob-

al leader in science and innovation, we cannot afford to let the number of American scientists and researchers or the quality of their research facilities diminish.

Madam Chair, we must continue to invest in American innovation and fully fund the research and development conducted through the DOE Office of Science.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA).

Mr. COSTA. Madam Chair, I want to thank the chairman, Mr. SIMPSON, for yielding me this time.

This legislation that is before us gives Congress a new opportunity to give California an ability in the water provisions that are contained within this law that will help relieve the devastating drought that has been impacting Californians both in the short term and in the long term.

In the absence of getting a comprehensive water bill passed into law—which I have not given up hope for, and my colleagues on both sides are still working on a bipartisan basis with Senator FEINSTEIN—I hope my colleagues, in the meantime, will join me in supporting the provisions in this bill that Congressman VALADAO has been able to provide that will, in fact, contain relief to the people of California whom we represent and who have been most impacted by this drought.

Between December of last year and May of this year, hundreds of thousands of acre-feet went out to the bay, to the ocean, that could have been provided for farms and farm communities in the valley, that would have helped farmworkers and farmers. Unfortunately, that water was lost.

The Federal Government cannot allow this to happen again. Congress must pass this bill so that next year, if we do have the water during the rain and snowy seasons between November and April of next year, we will be able to capture that water desperately needed instead of allowing it to flow out to the ocean.

Even under the flawed biological opinions, these amendments make sense. I commend my colleagues for inserting them here.

I want to thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I rise for a couple reasons. One is to wish my noble brother well back home. The other is to yield to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER) to enter into a colloquy.

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Chair, I thank Ranking Member KAPTUR.

I rise today to speak about the importance of the funding of the Office of Public Participation within the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, known fondly to us as the FERC, an office that has never been active despite prior authorization.

With the expansion of natural gas infrastructure in the Northeast and across the country, it makes sense that

we finally fund the Office of Public Participation to better incorporate the voices of average citizens in FERC proceedings and provide robust outreach efforts to communities and individuals that are impacted by energy projects.

Considering the broad authority that the FERC has over domestic energy markets and its control over the approval of energy infrastructure projects, average citizens simply do not have a sufficient public interest presence on the national level. With 27 States offering an existing consumer advocacy office, it is imperative that a similar national office be established within the FERC.

Constituents in my home State of New Hampshire are all too familiar with feeling shut out of the FERC process. The recently withdrawn Northeast Energy Direct natural gas pipeline would have impacted 18 small towns across my district and into the neighboring district.

Due in large part to the organizing efforts of citizens within these small towns, the NED pipeline's application within FERC was withdrawn this week, but this reality provides only momentary comfort because we all know that the FERC is in serious need of repair.

I understand that my Republican colleagues have interest in working to bring the Office of Public Participation to fruition and in making additional structural changes to the FERC. I look forward to working closely with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to move this effort forward.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I would commit to working with the very able gentlewoman from New Hampshire to see what progress we could make on this very important issue.

Mr. SIMPSON. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. KAPTUR. I yield to the gentleman from Idaho.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I look forward to working with the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the ranking member, and our colleagues on the Committee on Energy and Commerce to see if we can find an appropriate path forward on this issue.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GIBSON).

Mr. GIBSON. Madam Chair, let me express my gratitude to the chairman and the ranking member. I am here today to support the bill and to really urge my colleagues to continue to work together so that we can make progress on clean and renewable energy and energy efficiencies. I offer three points as to why.

First of all, it is important to us to be an independent nation. After four combat tours in Iraq, I am very eager to see us become energy independent, and certainly that requires an all-of-the-above energy strategy, including the renewable energy sources: solar power, wind, hydro, geothermal, biomass. All of these in upstate New York

are making a significant advance, and I want to see us continue to facilitate this.

We are a country that can do hard things. We have shown that time and again. We put a man on the Moon. We stood up to the Communist challenge. We did so in part because of research, development, and prototyping. The investments we made were so critical to that, and we not only won the cold war, but we also got the supercomputer, we got the Internet, and we ushered in the information age.

I think if we make similar investments—and we will have an amendment here shortly on ARPA-E. I appreciate what the chairman has done to support the program. I think this is very important. It would also offer jobs in my district and all throughout New York. This has been helpful to jobs.

Finally, the environment, how important it is. We want to be good stewards of our resources. To me, a conservative, you are certainly protecting all resources, including natural resources. To me, if conservation isn't conservative, well, then, words have no meaning at all.

So renewable energy sources and also the criticality of energy efficiencies, a kilowatt-hour saved is a kilowatt-hour produced. I know we have made progress. I appreciate the work of the committee. I urge us to continue that and double our efforts going forward.

Finally, I will say that I appreciate what Ms. KUSTER mentioned just moments ago. This is a bill I look forward to working on with her. I think it is a step in the right direction.

Thank you for your great work, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Chair, did the gentleman yield back his time?

Mr. HONDA. Yes, I yielded back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Let me just say that this is an important bill. It is an important bill for our economy, and it is an important bill for our defense.

I did want to say that I appreciate the staff and the hard work that they have put into this legislation, trying to address the requests of many Members. We have had something like—I can't remember the numbers—2300 different requests from Members for this piece of legislation, and we were able to address, in at least one form or another, about 95 percent of those requests. The staff works very hard to make this a bill that all Members can support.

It has been a pleasure working with the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR). She is from Ohio. I am from Idaho. We come from different States and have different perspectives and different points of view and different interests many times, and it is fun to sit in our hearings because oftentimes she brings up issues that I would have never thought of as we have people be-

fore us testifying, and I hope I do the same occasionally, too, and all our members do that. That is what really makes this process work.

That is why getting back to regular order and debating bills and marking them up and going to conference, as the Speaker and leader and minority leader have tried to do here, is so important.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, each amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. No pro forma amendment shall be in order except that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The chair of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose. Amendments so printed shall be considered read.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5055

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

The following appropriations shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Army and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for authorized civil functions of the Department of the Army pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related efforts.

INVESTIGATIONS

For expenses necessary where authorized by law for the collection and study of basic information pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related needs; for surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of proposed river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, and aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, and related efforts prior to construction; for restudy of authorized projects; and for miscellaneous investigations, and, when authorized by law, surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of projects prior to construction, \$120,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may initiate up to, but not more than, six new study starts during fiscal year 2017: *Provided*

further, That the new study starts will consist of five studies where the majority of the benefits are derived from navigation transportation savings or from flood and storm damage reduction and one study where the majority of benefits are derived from environmental restoration: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not deviate from the new starts proposed in the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 3, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 50, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000)".

Mr. GOSAR (during the reading). Mr. Chair, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 743, the gentleman from Arizona and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment that will help reduce the large backlog of important Army Corps of Engineers' projects. This amendment transfers \$1 million from the Department of Energy's departmental administration budget to the Army Corps of Engineers' investigations account to bring it up to fiscal year 2016 enacted levels.

The investigations account funds the planning and environmental studies required under the law for important Corps projects prior to construction.

□ 1800

There is a backlog of worthwhile Corps projects throughout the country that are essential to improving water infrastructure for communities, improving ecosystem restoration, providing clean water, and expanding much-needed water storage. These projects are especially critical to the drought-stricken communities in the West, and many other parts of the Nation.

The committee showed great insight in recognizing that the administration's request for the Corps' investigation budget was much too low, stating in the committee report: "Once again, the administration's claims to understand the importance of infrastructure ring hollow when it comes to water resource infrastructure investments. In fact, if enacted, the budget request would represent the lowest level of funding for the Civil Works program since fiscal year 2004."

At a time of historic drought and major water challenges, we shouldn't be reducing investigation dollars that will allow worthwhile community projects to move forward.

The committee has provided significant safeguards in the report to ensure that the funds transferred by this amendment will go to planning for the most viable projects and “studies that will enhance the Nation’s economic development, job growth, and international competitiveness; are for projects located in areas that have suffered recent natural disasters; or are for projects to address legal requirements.”

Support for this amendment is definitive action we can take to directly support timely development of critical water infrastructure projects.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. I thank the distinguished chair and ranking member for their work on this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I ask for a positive vote on this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Committee will rise informally.

The Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO) assumed the chair.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a Joint Resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 88. Joint Resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to the definition of the term “Fiduciary”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Committee will resume its sitting.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The Committee resumed its sitting.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. RODNEY DAVIS OF ILLINOIS

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 3, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 743, the gentleman from Illinois and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, America’s navigation infrastructure is crumbling. Most of the locks and dams on the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway System were built in the 1920s and 1930s, and have far outlived their life expectancy. Unfortunately, we have

not kept up with the maintenance and upgrades necessary to ensure that they can transport 21st century cargo that fuels and feeds the world.

Sixty percent of the grain exported from the United States goes through these locks and dams before hitting the global marketplace. But delays at navigation locks continue to get worse, lasting as long as 12 hours at a given time. And while a 2003 study by the Illinois Farm Bureau estimated these delays to cost midwestern farmers \$500 an hour, one can only assume how much more these delays cost today.

In the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Congress authorized the construction of seven new 1,200-foot locks along the Upper Mississippi River and the Illinois Waterway System. This bill also authorized the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program, or NESP, an important dual-purposed program that allows the Corps of Engineers to address both navigation and ecosystem restoration in an integrated approach.

It is supported widely by industry as well as conservation groups. In addition, the Governors of five States, from both political parties—Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri—and more than 50 bipartisan Members of the House and Senate have expressed support advancing NESP.

Unfortunately, the administration has taken few steps to implement NESP, and, once again, did not request any funding to continue pre-construction engineering and design activities for authorized lock projects on the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway System. If these pre-construction efforts are delayed further, we risk further delays of these projects actually getting off the ground and moving forward at such time as the moneys for them are available.

With this amendment, we tell the Corps that enough is enough. It is time to stop delaying the necessary work. We must ensure these construction projects are ready to go on day one.

I also want to thank my colleague, DARIN LAHOOD, who was going to come speak on this amendment, but I don’t see him here. It started a little sooner, Mr. Chairman, than what we envisioned. But Mr. LAHOOD, I know, would like to reiterate some of the comments I made. And he represents two of these locks that are included in this study.

Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Illinois has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I am going to try and stall until my colleague gets here.

I do want to say this amendment, this project, has wide bipartisan support. This is an opportunity for us to look at the global marketplace and the products that go up and down the Mississippi River and the Illinois Waterway System. This is how we feed the world.

We have some of the most fertile and expensive farmland in Illinois, Mis-

souri, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, and so many of these products that use these systems are the ones that are exporting into the global marketplace and also to Third World countries to feed those who need food the most.

As a matter of fact, just a few weeks ago, my colleague, Mr. LAHOOD, and I toured some outdated facilities.

Ms. KAPTUR. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. I am happy to hear the gentleman’s deep interest in that corridor of Illinois and Mississippi, and I would look forward to the gentleman’s assistance on trying to prevent the Asian carp from moving further north in those channels and into the entire Great Lakes system, destroying our natural fish population.

So I just wanted to put that on the record, and I thank the gentleman so much for showing an interest in both the infrastructure and the environmental restoration in those corridors.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Reclaiming my time, I would like to thank the gentlewoman, too. This is an opportunity to address both of those issues.

Obviously, representing part of the Mississippi River, like I do, we have seen the Asian carp problem firsthand. As a matter of fact, a plant opened in my district not too long ago to process Asian carp to be able to get fish oil and fishmeal that is used for pet food and other commodities. Unfortunately, they didn’t anticipate the smell.

So you can’t really build a fish processing plant around homes. And I think they figured that out. But we need ingenious ideas and opportunities like that to be able to address that Asian carp problem, because it is an invasive species and we need to do everything we can in a bipartisan way to work together to put a stop to it entering the Great Lakes or any other waterway.

Ms. KAPTUR. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I learned that, in the Peoria region, all the natural fish have disappeared now as a result of the invasion of the Asian carp there.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Reclaiming my time, I wouldn’t say all the natural fish, but I know that the Asian carp infestation has grown substantially more than what was envisioned when they were brought in.

Mr. Chairman, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman’s time has expired.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).