

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 to improve provisions relating to the development of hydropower at Corps of Engineers facilities, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To amend the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 to improve provisions relating to the development of hydropower at Corps of Engineers facilities, 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. EXPEDITING HYDROPOWER AT CORPS OF EN-**  
4 **GINEERS FACILITIES.**

5 Section 1008 of the Water Resources Reform and De-  
6 velopment Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C. 2321b) is amended—

1           (1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “and to  
2 meet the requirements of subsection (b)” after  
3 “projects”;

4           (2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as  
5 subsections (c) and (d), respectively;

6           (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
7 lowing:

8           “(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY.—The Secretary  
9 shall—

10           “(1) ensure that the policy described in section  
11 (a) is implemented nationwide in an efficient, con-  
12 sistent, and coordinated manner; and

13           “(2) assess opportunities—

14           “(A) to increase the development of hydro-  
15 electric power at existing hydroelectric water re-  
16 sources development projects of the Corps of  
17 Engineers; and

18           “(B) to develop new hydroelectric power at  
19 nonpowered water resources development  
20 projects of the Corps of Engineers.”; and

21           (4) by adding at the end the following:

22           “(e) PROGRAM MANAGER FOR NON-FEDERAL HY-  
23 DROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT.—

24           “(1) DESIGNATION.—The Chief of Engineers  
25 shall designate an employee of the Corps of Engi-

1       neers as a Program Manager for Non-Federal Hy-  
2       droelectric Power Development (referred to in this  
3       subsection as the ‘Program Manager’).

4               “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Program Manager  
5       shall—

6                       “(A) not be otherwise involved in the re-  
7       view of any Corps of Engineers permit to de-  
8       velop hydroelectric power at Corps of Engineers  
9       civil works projects; and

10                      “(B) be located at the headquarters office  
11       of the Corps of Engineers.

12               “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—With respect to the  
13       development of non-Federal hydroelectric power at  
14       Corps of Engineers civil works projects, the Program  
15       Manager shall—

16                      “(A) ensure timely and consistent review of  
17       permits across Corps of Engineers districts and  
18       levels;

19                      “(B) answer questions within the Corps of  
20       Engineers, or facilitate communication between  
21       developers and the Corps of Engineers, con-  
22       cerning Corps of Engineers permits;

23                      “(C) answer questions from developers re-  
24       garding the permitting process of the Corps of  
25       Engineers;

1           “(D) coordinate with the Federal Energy  
2           Regulatory Commission on licensing matters;

3           “(E) facilitate timely action on all aspects  
4           of Federal permitting required for hydropower  
5           development; and

6           “(F) ensure that new hydropower produc-  
7           tions are designed and operated with environ-  
8           mentally sustainable technologies and manage-  
9           ment plans.

10          “(4) REPORTING.—Not later than 90 days after  
11          the date of enactment of this subsection, the Chief  
12          of Engineers shall submit to Congress a report on  
13          the implementation of this subsection and subsection  
14          (b).”.