To set clear rules for the development of United States oil shale resources, to promote shale technology research and development, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 14, 2011

Mr. LAMBORN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

FEBRUARY 9, 2012

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on November 14, 2011]
A BILL

To set clear rules for the development of United States oil shale resources, to promote shale technology research and development, and for other purposes.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Investment
in Oil Shale the Next Generation of Environmental, En-
ergy, and Resource Security Act” or the “PIONEERS Act”.

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVENESS OF OIL SHALE REGULATIONS,
AMENDMENTS TO RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
PLANS, AND RECORD OF DECISION.

(a) REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other law or
regulation to the contrary, the final regulations regarding
oil shale management published by the Bureau of Land
Management on November 18, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 69,414)
are deemed to satisfy all legal and procedural requirements
under any law, including the Federal Land Policy and
Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the En-
dangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
4321 et seq.), and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public
Law 109–58), and the Secretary of the Interior shall imple-
ment those regulations, including the oil shale leasing pro-
gram authorized by the regulations, without any other ad-
ministrative action necessary.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS
AND RECORD OF DECISION.—Notwithstanding any other
law or regulation to the contrary, the November 17, 2008
U.S. Bureau of Land Management Approved Resource
Management Plan Amendments/Record of Decision for Oil
Shale and Tar Sands Resources to Address Land Use Allo-
cations in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming and Final Pro-
grammatic Environmental Impact Statement are deemed
to satisfy all legal and procedural requirements under any
law, including the Federal Land Policy and Management
Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the Endangered Spe-
cies Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the National Envi-
ronmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), and
the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58), and
the Secretary of the Interior shall implement the oil shale
leasing program authorized by the regulations referred to
in subsection (a) in those areas covered by the resource
management plans amended by such amendments, and cov-
ered by such record of decision, without any other adminis-
trative action necessary.

SEC. 3. OIL SHALE LEASING.

(a) ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
LEASE SALES.—The Secretary of the Interior shall hold a
lease sale within 180 days after the date of enactment of
this Act offering an additional 10 parcels for lease for re-
search, development, and demonstration of oil shale re-
sources, under the terms offered in the solicitation of bids

(b) COMMERCIAL LEASE SALES.—No later than January 1, 2016, the Secretary of the Interior shall hold no less than 5 separate commercial lease sales in areas considered to have the most potential for oil shale development, as determined by the Secretary, in areas nominated through public comment. Each lease sale shall be for an area of not less than 25,000 acres, and in multiple lease blocs.

SEC. 4. POLICIES REGARDING BUYING, BUILDING, AND WORKING FOR AMERICA.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.—It is the intent of the Congress that—

(1) this Act will support a healthy and growing United States domestic energy sector that, in turn, helps to reinvigorate American manufacturing, transportation, and service sectors by employing the vast talents of United States workers to assist in the development of energy from domestic sources;

(2) to ensure a robust oil shale industry and ensure that the benefits of development support local communities, under this Act, the Secretary shall make every effort to promote the development of oil shale in a manner that will support the long-term commercial development of oil shale, and shall take into consider-
ation the socioeconomic impacts, infrastructure re-
quirements, and fiscal stability for local communities
located within areas containing oil shale resources;
and

(3) the Congress will monitor the deployment of
personnel and material onshore to encourage the de-
velopment of American technology and manufacturing
to enable United States workers to benefit from this
Act through good jobs and careers, as well as the es-
tablishment of important industrial facilities to sup-
port expanded access to American resources.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the Interior
shall when possible, and practicable, encourage the use of
United States workers and equipment manufactured in the
United States in all construction related to mineral re-
source development under this Act.
A BILL

[Report No. 112-392]

H. R. 3408

Union Calendar No. 72