

Union Calendar No. 188

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1965

[Report No. 113–262, Part I]

To streamline and ensure onshore energy permitting, provide for onshore leasing certainty, and give certainty to oil shale development for American energy security, economic development, and job creation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2013

Mr. LAMBORN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

NOVEMBER 12, 2013

Additional sponsors: Mr. CRAMER and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina

NOVEMBER 12, 2013

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

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

NOVEMBER 12, 2013

The Committee on the Judiciary discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 14, 2013]

A BILL

To streamline and ensure onshore energy permitting, provide for onshore leasing certainty, and give certainty to oil shale development for American energy security, economic development, and job creation, 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 Lands Jobs and*
 5 *Energy Security Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

7 *The table of contents for this Act is as follows:*

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. Policies regarding buying, building, and working for America.

TITLE I—ONSHORE OIL AND GAS PERMIT STREAMLINING

Sec. 101. Short title.

Subtitle A—Application for Permits to Drill Process Reform

Sec. 111. Permit to drill application timeline.

Sec. 112. Solar and wind right-of-way rental reform.

Subtitle B—Administrative Protest Documentation Reform

Sec. 121. Administrative protest documentation reform.

Subtitle C—Permit Streamlining

Sec. 131. Improve Federal energy permit coordination.

Sec. 132. Administration of current law.

Subtitle D—Judicial Review

Sec. 141. Definitions.

Sec. 142. Exclusive venue for certain civil actions relating to covered energy projects.

Sec. 143. Timely filing.

Sec. 144. Expedition in hearing and determining the action.

Sec. 145. Standard of review.

Sec. 146. Limitation on injunction and prospective relief.

Sec. 147. Limitation on attorneys’ fees.

Sec. 148. Legal standing.

Subtitle E—Knowing America’s Oil and Gas Resources

Sec. 151. Funding oil and gas resource assessments.

TITLE II—OIL AND GAS LEASING CERTAINTY

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Minimum acreage requirement for onshore lease sales.

Sec. 203. Leasing certainty.

Sec. 204. Leasing consistency.

Sec. 205. Reduce redundant policies.

Sec. 206. Streamlined congressional notification.

TITLE III—OIL SHALE

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Effectiveness of oil shale regulations, amendments to resource management plans, and record of decision.

Sec. 303. Oil shale leasing.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Rule of construction.

1 SEC. 3. POLICIES REGARDING BUYING, BUILDING, AND 2 WORKING FOR AMERICA.

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

5 (1) *this Act will support a healthy and growing
6 United States domestic energy sector that, in turn,
7 helps to reinvigorate American manufacturing, trans-
8 portation, and service sectors by employing the vast
9 talents of United States workers to assist in the devel-
10 opment of energy from domestic sources;*

11 (2) *to ensure a robust onshore energy production
12 industry and ensure that the benefits of development
13 support local communities, under this Act, the Sec-
14 retary shall make every effort to promote the develop-
15 ment of onshore American energy, and shall take into
16 consideration the socioeconomic impacts, infrastruc-
17 ture requirements, and fiscal stability for local com-
18 munities located within areas containing onshore en-
19 ergy resources; and*

1 (3) *the Congress will monitor the deployment of*
 2 *personnel and material onshore to encourage the de-*
 3 *velopment of American manufacturing to enable*
 4 *United States workers to benefit from this Act through*
 5 *good jobs and careers, as well as the establishment of*
 6 *important industrial facilities to support expanded*
 7 *access to American resources.*

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

13 ***TITLE I—ONSHORE OIL AND GAS***
 14 ***PERMIT STREAMLINING***

15 ***SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.***

16 *This title may be cited as the “Streamlining Permit-*
 17 *ting of American Energy Act of 2013”.*

18 ***Subtitle A—Application for Permits***
 19 ***to Drill Process Reform***

20 ***SEC. 111. PERMIT TO DRILL APPLICATION TIMELINE.***

21 *Section 17(p)(2) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.*
 22 *226(p)(2)) is amended to read as follows:*

23 “(2) *APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS TO DRILL RE-*
 24 *FORM AND PROCESS.—*

1 “(A) *TIMELINE.*—*The Secretary shall decide*
2 *whether to issue a permit to drill within 30 days*
3 *after receiving an application for the permit.*
4 *The Secretary may extend such period for up to*
5 *2 periods of 15 days each, if the Secretary has*
6 *given written notice of the delay to the appli-*
7 *cant. The notice shall be in the form of a letter*
8 *from the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary,*
9 *and shall include the names and titles of the per-*
10 *sons processing the application, the specific rea-*
11 *sons for the delay, and a specific date a final de-*
12 *cision on the application is expected.*

13 “(B) *NOTICE OF REASONS FOR DENIAL.*—*If*
14 *the application is denied, the Secretary shall*
15 *provide the applicant—*

16 “(i) *in writing, clear and comprehen-*
17 *sive reasons why the application was not*
18 *accepted and detailed information con-*
19 *cerning any deficiencies; and*

20 “(ii) *an opportunity to remedy any de-*
21 *ficiencies.*

22 “(C) *APPLICATION DEEMED APPROVED.*—*If*
23 *the Secretary has not made a decision on the ap-*
24 *plication by the end of the 60-day period begin-*
25 *ning on the date the application is received by*

1 *the Secretary, the application is deemed ap-*
2 *proved, except in cases in which existing reviews*
3 *under the National Environmental Policy Act of*
4 *1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) or Endangered*
5 *Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) are*
6 *incomplete.*

7 *“(D) DENIAL OF PERMIT.—If the Secretary*
8 *decides not to issue a permit to drill in accord-*
9 *ance with subparagraph (A), the Secretary*
10 *shall—*

11 *“(i) provide to the applicant a descrip-*
12 *tion of the reasons for the denial of the per-*
13 *mit;*

14 *“(ii) allow the applicant to resubmit*
15 *an application for a permit to drill during*
16 *the 10-day period beginning on the date the*
17 *applicant receives the description of the de-*
18 *nial from the Secretary; and*

19 *“(iii) issue or deny any resubmitted*
20 *application not later than 10 days after the*
21 *date the application is submitted to the Sec-*
22 *retary.*

23 *“(E) FEE.—*

24 *“(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding*
25 *any other law, the Secretary shall collect a*

single \$6,500 permit processing fee per application from each applicant at the time the final decision is made whether to issue a permit under subparagraph (A). This fee shall not apply to any resubmitted application.

“(ii) *TREATMENT OF PERMIT PROCESSING FEE.*—Of all fees collected under this paragraph, 50 percent shall be transferred to the field office where they are collected and used to process protests, leases, and permits under this Act subject to appropriation.”.

SEC. 112. SOLAR AND WIND RIGHT-OF-WAY RENTAL REFORM.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to subsection (b), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, of fees collected each fiscal year as annual wind energy and solar energy right-of-way authorization fees required under section 504(g) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1764(g))—

(1) no less than 25 percent shall be available, subject to appropriation, for use for solar and wind permitting and management activities by Department

1 of the Interior field offices responsible for the land
2 where the fees were collected;

3 (2) no less than 25 percent shall be available,
4 subject to appropriation, for Bureau of Land Man-
5 agement solar and wind permit approval activities;
6 and

7 (3) no less than 25 percent shall be available,
8 subject to appropriation, to the Secretary of the Inte-
9 rior for department-wide solar and wind permitting
10 activities.

11 (b) *LIMITATION.*—The amount used under subsection
12 (a) each fiscal year shall not exceed \$10,000,000.

13 ***Subtitle B—Administrative Protest***
14 ***Documentation Reform***

15 ***SEC. 121. ADMINISTRATIVE PROTEST DOCUMENTATION RE-***
16 ***FORM.***

17 Section 17(p) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
18 226(p)) is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(4) *PROTEST FEE.*—

21 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall col-
22 lect a \$5,000 documentation fee to accompany
23 each protest for a lease, right of way, or applica-
24 tion for permit to drill.

1 “(B) *TREATMENT OF FEES.*—Of all fees col-
 2 lected under this paragraph, 50 percent shall re-
 3 main in the field office where they are collected
 4 and used to process protests subject to appropria-
 5 tion.”.

6 ***Subtitle C—Permit Streamlining***

7 ***SEC. 131. IMPROVE FEDERAL ENERGY PERMIT COORDINA-*** 8 ***TION.***

9 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—The Secretary of the Interior
 10 (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall estab-
 11 lish a Federal Permit Streamlining Project (referred to in
 12 this section as the “Project”) in every Bureau of Land Man-
 13 agement field office with responsibility for permitting en-
 14 ergy projects on Federal land.

15 (b) *MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.*—

16 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 90 days after
 17 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
 18 enter into a memorandum of understanding for pur-
 19 poses of this section with—

20 (A) the Secretary of Agriculture;

21 (B) the Administrator of the Environmental
 22 Protection Agency; and

23 (C) the Chief of the Army Corps of Engi-
 24 neers.

1 (2) *STATE PARTICIPATION.*—*The Secretary may*
2 *request that the Governor of any State with energy*
3 *projects on Federal lands to be a signatory to the*
4 *memorandum of understanding.*

5 (c) *DESIGNATION OF QUALIFIED STAFF.*—

6 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 30 days after*
7 *the date of the signing of the memorandum of under-*
8 *standing under subsection (b), all Federal signatory*
9 *parties shall, if appropriate, assign to each of the Bu-*
10 *reau of Land Management field offices an employee*
11 *who has expertise in the regulatory issues relating to*
12 *the office in which the employee is employed, includ-*
13 *ing, as applicable, particular expertise in—*

14 (A) *the consultations and the preparation of*
15 *biological opinions under section 7 of the Endan-*
16 *gered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536);*

17 (B) *permits under section 404 of Federal*
18 *Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344);*

19 (C) *regulatory matters under the Clean Air*
20 *Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.);*

21 (D) *planning under the National Forest*
22 *Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a et*
23 *seq.); and*

1 (E) the preparation of analyses under the
2 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42
3 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

4 (2) DUTIES.—Each employee assigned under
5 paragraph (1) shall—

6 (A) not later than 90 days after the date of
7 assignment, report to the Bureau of Land Man-
8 agement Field Managers in the office to which
9 the employee is assigned;

10 (B) be responsible for all issues relating to
11 the energy projects that arise under the authori-
12 ties of the employee's home agency; and

13 (C) participate as part of the team of per-
14 sonnel working on proposed energy projects,
15 planning, and environmental analyses on Fed-
16 eral lands.

17 (d) ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—The Secretary shall as-
18 sign to each Bureau of Land Management field office identi-
19 fied in subsection (a) any additional personnel that are nec-
20 essary to ensure the effective approval and implementation
21 of energy projects administered by the Bureau of Land
22 Management field offices, including inspection and enforce-
23 ment relating to energy development on Federal land, in
24 accordance with the multiple use mandate of the Federal

1 *Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701*
 2 *et seq.).*

3 (e) *FUNDING.—Funding for the additional personnel*
 4 *shall come from the Department of the Interior reforms*
 5 *identified in sections 101, 102, and 201.*

6 (f) *SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section af-*
 7 *fects—*

8 (1) *the operation of any Federal or State law; or*

9 (2) *any delegation of authority made by the head*
 10 *of a Federal agency whose employees are partici-*
 11 *pating in the Project.*

12 (g) *DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section the term*
 13 *“energy projects” includes oil, natural gas, coal, and other*
 14 *energy projects as defined by the Secretary.*

15 **SEC. 132. ADMINISTRATION OF CURRENT LAW.**

16 *Notwithstanding any other law, the Secretary of the*
 17 *Interior shall not require a finding of extraordinary cir-*
 18 *cumstances in administering section 390 of the Energy Pol-*
 19 *icy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15942).*

20 ***Subtitle D—Judicial Review***

21 **SEC. 141. DEFINITIONS.**

22 *In this subtitle—*

23 (1) *the term “covered civil action” means a civil*
 24 *action containing a claim under section 702 of title*
 25 *5, United States Code, regarding agency action (as*

1 *defined for the purposes of that section) affecting a*
2 *covered energy project on Federal lands of the United*
3 *States; and*

4 *(2) the term “covered energy project” means the*
5 *leasing of Federal lands of the United States for the*
6 *exploration, development, production, processing, or*
7 *transmission of oil, natural gas, wind, or any other*
8 *source of energy, and any action under such a lease,*
9 *except that the term does not include any disputes be-*
10 *tween the parties to a lease regarding the obligations*
11 *under such lease, including regarding any alleged*
12 *breach of the lease.*

13 **SEC. 142. EXCLUSIVE VENUE FOR CERTAIN CIVIL ACTIONS**
14 **RELATING TO COVERED ENERGY PROJECTS.**

15 *Venue for any covered civil action shall lie in the dis-*
16 *trict court where the project or leases exist or are proposed.*

17 **SEC. 143. TIMELY FILING.**

18 *To ensure timely redress by the courts, a covered civil*
19 *action must be filed no later than the end of the 90-day*
20 *period beginning on the date of the final Federal agency*
21 *action to which it relates.*

22 **SEC. 144. EXPEDITION IN HEARING AND DETERMINING THE**
23 **ACTION.**

24 *The court shall endeavor to hear and determine any*
25 *covered civil action as expeditiously as possible.*

1 **SEC. 145. STANDARD OF REVIEW.**

2 *In any judicial review of a covered civil action, ad-*
3 *ministrative findings and conclusions relating to the chal-*
4 *lenged Federal action or decision shall be presumed to be*
5 *correct, and the presumption may be rebutted only by the*
6 *preponderance of the evidence contained in the administra-*
7 *tive record.*

8 **SEC. 146. LIMITATION ON INJUNCTION AND PROSPECTIVE**
9 **RELIEF.**

10 *In a covered civil action, the court shall not grant or*
11 *approve any prospective relief unless the court finds that*
12 *such relief is narrowly drawn, extends no further than nec-*
13 *essary to correct the violation of a legal requirement, and*
14 *is the least intrusive means necessary to correct that viola-*
15 *tion. In addition, courts shall limit the duration of prelimi-*
16 *nary injunctions to halt covered energy projects to no more*
17 *than 60 days, unless the court finds clear reasons to extend*
18 *the injunction. In such cases of extensions, such extensions*
19 *shall only be in 30-day increments and shall require action*
20 *by the court to renew the injunction.*

21 **SEC. 147. LIMITATION ON ATTORNEYS' FEES.**

22 *Sections 504 of title 5, United States Code, and 2412*
23 *of title 28, United States Code, (together commonly called*
24 *the Equal Access to Justice Act) do not apply to a covered*
25 *civil action, nor shall any party in such a covered civil*

1 *action receive payment from the Federal Government for*
 2 *their attorneys' fees, expenses, and other court costs.*

3 **SEC. 148. LEGAL STANDING.**

4 *Challengers filing appeals with the Department of the*
 5 *Interior Board of Land Appeals shall meet the same stand-*
 6 *ing requirements as challengers before a United States dis-*
 7 *trict court.*

8 ***Subtitle E—Knowing America's Oil***
 9 ***and Gas Resources***

10 **SEC. 151. FUNDING OIL AND GAS RESOURCE ASSESSMENTS.**

11 *(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall*
 12 *provide matching funding for joint projects with States to*
 13 *conduct oil and gas resource assessments on Federal lands*
 14 *with significant oil and gas potential.*

15 *(b) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of*
 16 *activities under this section shall not exceed 50 percent.*

17 *(c) RESOURCE ASSESSMENT.—Any resource assess-*
 18 *ment under this section shall be conducted by a State, in*
 19 *consultation with the United States Geological Survey.*

20 *(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is*
 21 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out*
 22 *this section a total of \$50,000,000 for fiscal years 2014*
 23 *through 2017.*

1 ***TITLE II—OIL AND GAS LEASING***
 2 ***CERTAINTY***

3 ***SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.***

4 *This title may be cited as the “Providing Leasing Cer-*
 5 *tainty for American Energy Act of 2013”.*

6 ***SEC. 202. MINIMUM ACREAGE REQUIREMENT FOR ONSHORE***
 7 ***LEASE SALES.***

8 *In conducting lease sales as required by section 17(a)*
 9 *of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226(a)), each year*
 10 *the Secretary of the Interior shall perform the following:*

11 *(1) The Secretary shall offer for sale no less than*
 12 *25 percent of the annual nominated acreage not pre-*
 13 *viously made available for lease. Acreage offered for*
 14 *lease pursuant to this paragraph shall not be subject*
 15 *to protest and shall be eligible for categorical exclu-*
 16 *sions under section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of*
 17 *2005 (42 U.S.C. 15942), except that it shall not be*
 18 *subject to the test of extraordinary circumstances.*

19 *(2) In administering this section, the Secretary*
 20 *shall only consider leasing of Federal lands that are*
 21 *available for leasing at the time the lease sale occurs.*

22 ***SEC. 203. LEASING CERTAINTY.***

23 *Section 17(a) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.*
 24 *226(a)) is amended by inserting “(1)” before “All lands”,*
 25 *and by adding at the end the following:*

1 “(2)(A) *The Secretary shall not withdraw any covered*
2 *energy project issued under this Act without finding a vio-*
3 *lation of the terms of the lease by the lessee.*

4 “(B) *The Secretary shall not infringe upon lease rights*
5 *under leases issued under this Act by indefinitely delaying*
6 *issuance of project approvals, drilling and seismic permits,*
7 *and rights of way for activities under such a lease.*

8 “(C) *No later than 18 months after an area is des-*
9 *ignated as open under the current land use plan the Sec-*
10 *retary shall make available nominated areas for lease under*
11 *the criteria in section 2.*

12 “(D) *Notwithstanding any other law, the Secretary*
13 *shall issue all leases sold no later than 60 days after the*
14 *last payment is made.*

15 “(E) *The Secretary shall not cancel or withdraw any*
16 *lease parcel after a competitive lease sale has occurred and*
17 *a winning bidder has submitted the last payment for the*
18 *parcel.*

19 “(F) *Not later than 60 days after a lease sale held*
20 *under this Act, the Secretary shall adjudicate any lease pro-*
21 *tests filed following a lease sale. If after 60 days any protest*
22 *is left unsettled, said protest is automatically denied and*
23 *appeal rights of the protestor begin.*

24 “(G) *No additional lease stipulations may be added*
25 *after the parcel is sold without consultation and agreement*

1 *of the lessee, unless the Secretary deems such stipulations*
 2 *as emergency actions to conserve the resources of the United*
 3 *States.”.*

4 **SEC. 204. LEASING CONSISTENCY.**

5 *Federal land managers must follow existing resource*
 6 *management plans and continue to actively lease in areas*
 7 *designated as open when resource management plans are*
 8 *being amended or revised, until such time as a new record*
 9 *of decision is signed.*

10 **SEC. 205. REDUCE REDUNDANT POLICIES.**

11 *Bureau of Land Management Instruction Memo-*
 12 *randum 2010–117 shall have no force or effect.*

13 **SEC. 206. STREAMLINED CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.**

14 *Section 31(e) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.*
 15 *188(e)) is amended in the matter following paragraph (4)*
 16 *by striking “at least thirty days in advance of the reinstate-*
 17 *ment” and inserting “in an annual report”.*

18 **TITLE III—OIL SHALE**

19 **SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

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

1 **SEC. 302. EFFECTIVENESS OF OIL SHALE REGULATIONS,**
2 **AMENDMENTS TO RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**
3 **PLANS, AND RECORD OF DECISION.**

4 (a) *REGULATIONS.*—Notwithstanding any other law or
5 regulation to the contrary, the final regulations regarding
6 oil shale management published by the Bureau of Land
7 Management on November 18, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 69,414)
8 are deemed to satisfy all legal and procedural requirements
9 under any law, including the Federal Land Policy and
10 Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the En-
11 dangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and
12 the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
13 4321 et seq.), and the Secretary of the Interior shall imple-
14 ment those regulations, including the oil shale leasing pro-
15 gram authorized by the regulations, without any other ad-
16 ministrative action necessary.

17 (b) *AMENDMENTS TO RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS*
18 *AND RECORD OF DECISION.*—Notwithstanding any other
19 law or regulation to the contrary, the November 17, 2008
20 U.S. Bureau of Land Management Approved Resource
21 Management Plan Amendments/Record of Decision for Oil
22 Shale and Tar Sands Resources to Address Land Use Allo-
23 cations in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming and Final Pro-
24 grammatic Environmental Impact Statement are deemed
25 to satisfy all legal and procedural requirements under any
26 law, including the Federal Land Policy and Management

1 *Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the Endangered Spe-*
2 *cies Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and the National*
3 *Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.),*
4 *and the Secretary of the Interior shall implement the oil*
5 *shale leasing program authorized by the regulations referred*
6 *to in subsection (a) in those areas covered by the resource*
7 *management plans amended by such amendments, and cov-*
8 *ered by such record of decision, without any other adminis-*
9 *trative action necessary.*

10 **SEC. 303. OIL SHALE LEASING.**

11 (a) *ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT*
12 *LEASE SALES.*—*The Secretary of the Interior shall hold a*
13 *lease sale within 180 days after the date of enactment of*
14 *this Act offering an additional 10 parcels for lease for re-*
15 *search, development, and demonstration of oil shale re-*
16 *sources, under the terms offered in the solicitation of bids*
17 *for such leases published on January 15, 2009 (74 Fed. Reg.*
18 *10).*

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

***TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS
PROVISIONS***

SEC. 401. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize the issuance of a lease under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) to any person designated for the imposition of sanctions pursuant to—

(1) the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note), the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Divestiture Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8501 et seq.), the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8701 et seq.), section 1245 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a), or the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8801 et seq.);

(2) Executive Order 13622 (July 30, 2012), Executive Order 13628 (October 9, 2012), or Executive Order 13645 (June 3, 2013);

(3) Executive Order 13224 (September 23, 2001) or Executive Order 13338 (May 11, 2004); or

(4) the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note).

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H. R. 1965

[Report No. 113-262, Part I]

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