

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 356

To clarify authority granted under the Act entitled “An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes”.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 23, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Utah (for himself, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. CHAFFETZ, and Mr. STEWART) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To clarify authority granted under the Act entitled “An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, 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 “Hill Creek Cultural  
5 Preservation and Energy Development Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY.**

7 The Act entitled “An Act to define the exterior  
8 boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in

1 the State of Utah, and for other purposes”, approved  
2 March 11, 1948 (62 Stat. 72), as amended by the Act  
3 entitled “An Act to amend the Act extending the exterior  
4 boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in  
5 the State of Utah so as to authorize such State to ex-  
6 change certain mineral lands for other lands mineral in  
7 character” approved August 9, 1955, (69 Stat. 544), is  
8 further amended by adding at the end the following:

9       “SEC. 5. In order to further clarify authorizations  
10 under this Act, the State of Utah is hereby authorized to  
11 relinquish to the United States, for the benefit of the Ute  
12 Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, State  
13 school trust or other State-owned subsurface mineral  
14 lands located beneath the surface estate delineated in Pub-  
15 lic Law 440 (approved March 11, 1948) and south of the  
16 border between Grand County, Utah, and Uintah County,  
17 Utah, and select in lieu of such relinquished lands, on an  
18 acre-for-acre basis, any subsurface mineral lands of the  
19 United States located beneath the surface estate delin-  
20 eated in Public Law 440 (approved March 11, 1948) and  
21 north of the border between Grand County, Utah, and  
22 Uintah County, Utah, subject to the following conditions:

23               “(1) RESERVATION BY UNITED STATES.—The  
24       Secretary of the Interior shall reserve an overriding  
25       interest in that portion of the mineral estate com-

1       prised of minerals subject to leasing under the Min-  
2       eral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 171 et seq.) in any min-  
3       eral lands conveyed to the State.

4               “(2) EXTENT OF OVERRIDING INTEREST.—The  
5       overriding interest reserved by the United States  
6       under paragraph (1) shall consist of—

7               “(A) 50 percent of any bonus bid or other  
8       payment received by the State as consideration  
9       for securing any lease or authorization to de-  
10      velop such mineral resources;

11              “(B) 50 percent of any rental or other  
12      payments received by the State as consideration  
13      for the lease or authorization to develop such  
14      mineral resources;

15              “(C) a 6.25 percent overriding royalty on  
16      the gross proceeds of oil and gas production  
17      under any lease or authorization to develop  
18      such oil and gas resources; and

19              “(D) an overriding royalty on the gross  
20      proceeds of production of such minerals other  
21      than oil and gas, equal to 50 percent of the roy-  
22      alty rate established by the Secretary of the In-  
23      terior by regulation as of October 1, 2011.

24              “(3) RESERVATION BY STATE OF UTAH.—The  
25      State of Utah shall reserve, for the benefit of its

1 State school trust, an overriding interest in that por-  
2 tion of the mineral estate comprised of minerals sub-  
3 ject to leasing under the Mineral Leasing Act (30  
4 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) in any mineral lands relin-  
5 quished by the State to the United States.

6 “(4) EXTENT OF OVERRIDING INTEREST.—The  
7 overriding interest reserved by the State under para-  
8 graph (3) shall consist of—

9 “(A) 50 percent of any bonus bid or other  
10 payment received by the United States as con-  
11 sideration for securing any lease or authoriza-  
12 tion to develop such mineral resources on the  
13 relinquished lands;

14 “(B) 50 percent of any rental or other  
15 payments received by the United States as con-  
16 sideration for the lease or authorization to de-  
17 velop such mineral resources;

18 “(C) a 6.25 percent overriding royalty on  
19 the gross proceeds of oil and gas production  
20 under any lease or authorization to develop  
21 such oil and gas resources; and

22 “(D) an overriding royalty on the gross  
23 proceeds of production of such minerals other  
24 than oil and gas, equal to 50 percent of the roy-

1           alty rate established by the Secretary of the In-  
2           terior by regulation as of October 1, 2011.

3           “(5) NO OBLIGATION TO LEASE.—Neither the  
4           United States nor the State shall be obligated to  
5           lease or otherwise develop oil and gas resources in  
6           which the other party retains an overriding interest  
7           under this section.

8           “(6) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Sec-  
9           retary of the Interior is authorized to enter into co-  
10          operative agreements with the State and the Ute In-  
11          dian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation to  
12          facilitate the relinquishment and selection of lands  
13          to be conveyed under this section, and the adminis-  
14          tration of the overriding interests reserved here-  
15          under.”.

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