

Union Calendar No. 571

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 1687

[Report No. 119–657]

To amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to increase the frequency of lease sales, to require replacement sales, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Mr. FULCHER (for himself, Ms. MALOY, and Ms. BOEBERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

MAY 20, 2026

Additional sponsors: Ms. LEE of Nevada and Mr. BEGICH

MAY 20, 2026

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 *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 27, 2025]

A BILL

To amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to increase the frequency of lease sales, to require replacement sales, 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 “Committing Leases for*
 5 *Energy Access Now Act” or the “CLEAN Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. GEOTHERMAL LEASING.**

7 *(a) ANNUAL LEASING.—Section 4(b) of the Geothermal*
 8 *Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003(b)) is amended—*

9 *(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “2 years” and*
 10 *inserting “year”;*

11 *(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as*
 12 *paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and*

13 *(3) after paragraph (2), by inserting the fol-*
 14 *lowing:*

15 *“(3) REPLACEMENT SALES.—If a lease sale*
 16 *under paragraph (1) for a year is canceled or de-*
 17 *layed, the Secretary of the Interior shall conduct a re-*
 18 *placement sale during the same year.*

19 *“(4) REQUIREMENT.—Of the nominated parcels*
 20 *eligible for geothermal development and utilization*
 21 *under the resource management plan in effect for the*
 22 *State, the Secretary shall, in conducting a lease sale*
 23 *under paragraph (2), offer for lease—*

24 *“(A) 75 percent of such nominated parcels;*
 25 *and*

1 “(B) the remaining 25 percent of such nom-
 2 inated parcels, unless the Secretary provides a
 3 written justification that identifies a statutory,
 4 environmental, or administrative basis that pre-
 5 vents the Secretary from offering such nominated
 6 parcels for lease.”.

7 (b) *DEADLINES FOR CONSIDERATION OF GEOTHERMAL*
 8 *DRILLING PERMITS.*—Section 4 of the Geothermal Steam
 9 Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003) is amended by adding at the
 10 end the following:

11 “(h) *DEADLINES FOR CONSIDERATION OF GEO-*
 12 *THERMAL DRILLING PERMITS.*—

13 “(1) *NOTICE.*—Not later than 30 days after the
 14 date on which the Secretary receives an application
 15 for any geothermal drilling permit, the Secretary
 16 shall—

17 “(A) provide written notice to the applicant
 18 that the application is complete; or

19 “(B) notify the applicant that information
 20 is missing and specify any information that is
 21 required to be submitted for the application to be
 22 complete.

23 “(2) *ISSUANCE OR DEFERRAL.*—

24 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 30 days
 25 after the Secretary has provided written notice to

1 *an applicant for a geothermal drilling permit*
2 *that the application for such permit is complete*
3 *pursuant to paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary*
4 *shall—*

5 *“(i) issue the permit, if the require-*
6 *ments under the National Environmental*
7 *Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)*
8 *and other applicable law have been com-*
9 *pleted within such timeframe; or*

10 *“(ii) defer the decision on the permit*
11 *and provide to the applicant a notice—*

12 *“(I) that specifies any steps that*
13 *the applicant could take for the permit*
14 *to be issued; and*

15 *“(II) that includes a list of ac-*
16 *tions that need to be taken by the agen-*
17 *cy to comply with applicable law, to-*
18 *gether with timelines and deadlines for*
19 *taking such actions, which shall not ex-*
20 *ceed the deadlines specified in section*
21 *107(g) of the National Environmental*
22 *Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.*
23 *4336a(g)).*

24 *“(B) DEADLINE FOR DEFERRED DECI-*
25 *SIONS.—If the Secretary defers a decision on a*

1 *permit under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Sec-*
2 *retary shall issue a decision on the permit not*
3 *later than 10 days after the applicant takes any*
4 *steps specified pursuant to subparagraph*
5 *(A)(ii)(I) and the agency takes the actions listed*
6 *pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) in accord-*
7 *ance with any applicable timelines and dead-*
8 *lines.”.*

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