

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 972

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## AN ACT

To amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Sloan Canyon Con-  
3 servation and Lateral Pipeline Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5       In this Act:

6           (1) **CONSERVATION AREA.**—The term “Con-  
7 servation Area” means the Sloan Canyon National  
8 Conservation Area.

9           (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means  
10 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-  
11 rector of the Bureau of Land Management.

12 **SEC. 3. SLOAN CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA**  
13 **BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.**

14       (a) **BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.**—

15           (1) **MAP.**—Section 603(4) of the Sloan Canyon  
16 National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-  
17 1(4)) is amended by striking “map entitled ‘South-  
18 ern Nevada Public Land Management Act’ and  
19 dated October 1, 2002” and inserting “map entitled  
20 ‘Proposed Sloan Canyon Expansion’ and dated May  
21 20, 2024”.

22           (2) **ACREAGE.**—Section 604(b) of the Sloan  
23 Canyon National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C.  
24 460qqq-2(b)) is amended by striking “48,438” and  
25 inserting “57,728”.

1 (b) RIGHT-OF-WAY.—Section 605 of the Sloan Can-  
2 yon National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-  
3 3) is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(h) HORIZON LATERAL PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-  
5 WAY.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sections  
7 202 and 503 of the Federal Land Policy and Man-  
8 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712, 1763) and  
9 subject to valid existing rights and paragraph (3),  
10 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-  
11 rector of the Bureau of Land Management (referred  
12 to in this subsection as the ‘Secretary’), shall, not  
13 later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this  
14 subsection, grant to the Southern Nevada Water Au-  
15 thority (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Author-  
16 ity’), not subject to the payment of rents or other  
17 charges, the temporary and permanent water pipe-  
18 line infrastructure, and outside the boundaries of the  
19 Conservation Area, powerline, facility, and access  
20 road rights-of-way depicted on the map for the pur-  
21 poses of—

22 “(A) performing geotechnical investigations  
23 within the rights-of-way; and

24 “(B) constructing and operating water  
25 transmission and related facilities.

1           “(2) EXCAVATION AND DISPOSAL.—

2                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Authority may,  
3           without consideration, excavate and use or dis-  
4           pose of sand, gravel, minerals, or other mate-  
5           rials from the tunneling of the water pipeline  
6           necessary to fulfill the purpose of the rights-of-  
7           way granted under paragraph (1).

8                   “(B)       MEMORANDUM       OF       UNDER-  
9           STANDING.—Not later than 30 days after the  
10          date on which the rights-of-way are granted  
11          under paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Au-  
12          thority shall enter into a memorandum of un-  
13          derstanding identifying Federal land on which  
14          the Authority may dispose of materials under  
15          subparagraph (A) to further the interests of the  
16          Bureau of Land Management.

17          “(3) REQUIREMENTS.—A right-of-way issued  
18          under this subsection shall be subject to the fol-  
19          lowing requirements:

20                   “(A) The Secretary may include reasonable  
21           terms and conditions, consistent with section  
22           505 of the Federal Land Policy and Manage-  
23           ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1765), as are nec-  
24           essary to protect Conservation Area resources.

1           “(B) Construction of the water pipeline  
2           shall not permanently adversely affect conserva-  
3           tion area surface resources.

4           “(C) The right-of-way shall not be located  
5           through or under any area designated as wilder-  
6           ness.”.

7           (c) PRESERVATION OF TRANSMISSION AND UTILITY  
8           CORRIDORS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The expansion of the  
9           Conservation Area boundary under the amendment made  
10          by subsection (a)—

11           (1) shall be subject to valid existing rights, in-  
12          cluding land within a designated utility transmission  
13          corridor or a transmission line right-of-way grant  
14          approved by the Secretary in a record of decision  
15          issued before the date of the enactment of this Act;

16           (2) shall not preclude—

17           (A) any activity authorized in accordance  
18          with a designated corridor or right-of-way re-  
19          ferred to in paragraph (1), including the oper-  
20          ation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of  
21          any authorized utility facility within the cor-  
22          ridor or right-of-way; or

23           (B) the Secretary from authorizing the es-  
24          tablishment of a new utility facility right-of-way  
25          within an existing designated transportation

1 and utility corridor referred to in paragraph

2 (1)—

3 (i) in accordance with the National  
4 Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42  
5 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other applicable  
6 laws; and

7 (ii) subject to such terms and condi-  
8 tions as the Secretary determines to be ap-  
9 propriate.

10 (d) MANAGEMENT OF THE CONSERVATION AREA.—

11 Except as provided in the amendment made by subsection  
12 (b), nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this  
13 Act shall modify the management of the Conservation  
14 Area pursuant to section 605 of the Sloan Canyon Na-  
15 tional Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq–3).

Passed the House of Representatives December 15,  
2025.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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