

CENTRAL TEXAS WATER RECYCLING ACT OF 2006

APRIL 27, 2006.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. POMBO, from the Committee on Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 3418]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 3418) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Central Texas Water Recycling Act of 2006”.

SEC. 2. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 16 ___ the following new section:

“SEC. 16 ____ . CENTRAL TEXAS WATER RECYCLING AND REUSE PROJECT.

“(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The Secretary, in cooperation with the City of Waco and other participating communities in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project is authorized to participate in the design, planning, and construction of permanent facilities to reclaim and reuse water in McLennan County, Texas.

“(b) **COST SHARE.**—The Federal share of the costs of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost.

“(c) **LIMITATION.**—The Secretary shall not provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).

“(d) **SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.**—The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions of this section shall terminate 10 years after the date of enactment of this section.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102–575 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 16___ the following: “Sec. 16 ___. Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project.”.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 3418 is to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Central Texas cities are experiencing rapid population growth and increased water demand. With water treatment plants approaching capacity, area water planners have done initial studies for constructing the McLennan County/Waco Regional Satellite and Reuse Project. Located in the Flat Creek Drainage Area near Lake Waco, the project will be used to treat and recycle wastewater generated by the City of Waco and six neighboring communities. The project’s overall cost is estimated to be approximately \$25 million. Under H.R. 3418, the federal share of the project will not exceed 25 percent (or \$6.25 million) of the overall cost of the project. McLennan County estimates that the project could provide up to 10 million gallons per day of reused water. Along with decreasing the strain on older treatment plants in the area and reducing effluent flows into Lake Waco, the water recycling project will help meet future demands, providing reclaimed water for golf courses, landscaping, and other industrial uses.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 3418 was introduced on July 25, 2005, by Congressman Chet Edwards (D–TX). The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on Water and Power. On October 6, 2005, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On March 29, 2006, the Full Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on Water and Power was discharged from further consideration of the bill by unanimous consent. Congressman George Radanovich (R–CA) offered an amendment to place a 10-year sunset on the bill’s authorization. The amendment was adopted by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was then ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This section cites the short title of the bill as the “Central Texas Water Recycling Act of 2006.”

SECTION 2. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.

This section amends the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102–575) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate with the City of Waco and other participating communities in the design, planning, and construction of permanent facilities to reclaim and reuse water in

McLennan County, Texas. As amended, this section also specifies that the federal cost share of the project cannot exceed 25 percent, prohibits federal funds for project operations and maintenance, and limits the federal authorization of this project to ten years.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of Rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. General Performance Goals and Objectives. As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project, and for other purposes.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

H.R. 3418—Central Texas Water Recycling Act of 2006

Summary: H.R. 3418 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of facilities to recycle water in McLennan County, Texas. The bill would limit the federal share of this project to 25 percent of its total cost.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary funds, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3418 would cost \$5 million over the 2007–2011 period and an additional \$1 million after that period. Enacting this legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 3418 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimated cost to the Federal Government: The estimated budgetary Impact of H.R. 3418 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

| | By fiscal year, in millions of dollars— | | | | |
|--|---|------|------|------|------|
| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
| CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION | | | | | |
| Estimated Authorization Level | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Estimated Outlays | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Basis of estimate: For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 3418 will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2007 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated in equal installments over the 2007–2012 period.

The Bureau of Reclamation has not yet reviewed any of the planning documents for the Central Texas Water Recycling Project. According to the nonfederal partner for this project, the city of Waco, Texas, the total estimated cost of the project is \$25 million. For this estimate, CBO assumes the federal share of the project would be \$6 million. Based on historical spending patterns of similar projects, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost \$5 million over the 2007–2011 period and an additional \$1 million after that period.

Intergovernmental and private-sector impact: H.R. 3418 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to design, plan, and construct a system for recycling water that would benefit local governments participating in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project. Any costs they might incur to provide matching funds would result from complying with conditions for receiving federal assistance.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Julie Middleton; Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Lisa Ramirez-Branum; Impact on the Private Sector: Craig Cammarata.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104–4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (new matter is printed in italic and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

**RECLAMATION PROJECTS AUTHORIZATION AND
ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1992**

(Public Law 102-575)

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

For purposes of this Act, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sec. 1. Short title.

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TITLE XVI—RECLAMATION WASTEWATER AND GROUND WATER STUDIES

Sec. 1601. Short title.

* * * * *

Sec. 16 ____. *Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project.*

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**TITLE XVI—RECLAMATION WASTEWATER AND
GROUNDWATER STUDIES**

SEC. 1601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be referred to as the “Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act”.

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SEC. 16 ____. CENTRAL TEXAS WATER RECYCLING AND REUSE PROJECT.

(a) *AUTHORIZATION.*—The Secretary, in cooperation with the City of Waco and other participating communities in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project is authorized to participate in the design, planning, and construction of permanent facilities to reclaim and reuse water in McLennan County, Texas.

(b) *COST SHARE.*—The Federal share of the costs of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost.

(c) *LIMITATION.*—The Secretary shall not provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).

(d) *SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.*—The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions of this section shall terminate 10 years after the date of enactment of this section.

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