

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1806

To provide for the consolidation of the Office of Fossil Energy and the Office of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency of the Department of Energy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 5, 1997

Mr. DOYLE (for himself, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr. ROEMER, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. COYNE, Mr. COBURN, Mr. GORDON, Mr. KLINK, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. NEY, Mr. FOLEY, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Mr. ROHRABACHER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science

A BILL

To provide for the consolidation of the Office of Fossil Energy and the Office of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency of the Department of Energy.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds that—

5 (1) the Department of Energy's Office of Fossil
6 Energy and Office of Renewable Energy and Energy
7 Efficiency are organizationally similar in most areas,
8 using such procedures as project management, con-

1 tract authority, grants and contract utilization, and
2 in-house research and development to meet the en-
3 ergy research needs of the United States;

4 (2) the goals of these offices are similar, and
5 the energy technology missions and objectives over-
6 lap in areas such as advanced materials, biomass, al-
7 ternative fuels, high-temperature superconductivity,
8 and hydrogen;

9 (3) a unified organizational structure for these
10 offices could provide appropriate direction and over-
11 sight of their programmatic work;

12 (4) a unified organizational structure provides
13 opportunities to eliminate duplicate work, improve
14 program integration, and achieve savings in such
15 crosscutting areas as program planning, policy anal-
16 ysis, external communications, and administrative
17 services;

18 (5) these efficiencies can be achieved without
19 compromising the Department's in-house research
20 and development activities; and

21 (6) better use could be made of the resources
22 available in the field offices of these energy offices,
23 improving collaboration and clarifying the distinction
24 between operational issues and programmatic issues.

1 **SEC. 2. CONSOLIDATION.**

2 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Before October 1, 1998, the
3 Secretary of Energy shall consolidate the Office of Fossil
4 Energy and the Office of Renewable Energy and Energy
5 Efficiency into an Office of Energy Technology. Such con-
6 solidation shall be carried out in a manner that minimizes
7 delay and disruption to ongoing energy research, develop-
8 ment, and demonstration programs.

9 (b) ADMINISTRATIVE CONSOLIDATION.—Through in-
10 creased efficiencies resulting from the elimination of dupli-
11 cation of functions in such areas as program planning, pol-
12 icy analysis, external communications, and administrative
13 services, the consolidation carried out under subsection (a)
14 shall result by October 1, 1998, in a reduction by 25 of
15 the number of headquarters employees, determined on a
16 full-time equivalent basis, as compared to personnel levels
17 on the date of the enactment of this Act at the head-
18 quarters of the two offices being consolidated.

19 (c) ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ENERGY TECH-
20 NOLOGY.—(1) There shall be appointed an Assistant Sec-
21 retary of Energy for Energy Technology, whose duties
22 shall include the preparation and transmittal to Congress
23 of the documents required under section 3, and the direc-
24 tion and supervision of the Office of Energy Technology
25 established pursuant to this section.

1 (2) Section 203(a) of the Department of Energy Or-
2 ganization Act (42 U.S.C. 7133(a)) is amended by strik-
3 ing “eight” and inserting in lieu thereof “seven”.

4 **SEC. 3. POLICY AND PROGRAM PLANS.**

5 The Assistant Secretary for Energy Technology shall,
6 within 6 months after the date of the enactment of this
7 Act, prepare and transmit to the Congress—

8 (1) a strategic plan and policy agenda for the
9 Office of Energy Technology; and

10 (2) a multiyear program plan for that Office for
11 fiscal years 1999 through 2003, including a com-
12 prehensive strategy for increasing the use of re-
13 sources available in field offices.

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