

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5245

To study the feasibility and desirability of the formation of regional transmission organizations within the Western Electric Coordinating Council, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2002

Mr. ISSA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To study the feasibility and desirability of the formation of regional transmission organizations within the Western Electric Coordinating Council, 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 “Western Electricity
5 Markets Reform Act of 2002”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Energy Regulatory
8 Commission shall study the feasibility and desirability of

1 the formation of regional transmission organizations with-
2 in the Western Electric Coordinating Council. This study
3 shall be completed and submitted to the Congress no later
4 than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.

5 (b) OPTIONS.—The study under this section shall
6 focus on the following options:

7 (1) The establishment of one Regional Trans-
8 mission Organization to cover the entire area within
9 the jurisdiction of the Western Electric Coordinating
10 Council.

11 (2) The establishment of two Regional Trans-
12 mission Organizations with the following geographic
13 boundaries:

14 (A) The northern region of California, the
15 States covered by the Pacific Northwest Power
16 Planning Act, the northern portion of Nevada,
17 and such other areas that are contained within
18 the same natural electricity trading market, and
19 with headquarters located in Portland, Oregon;
20 and

21 (B) The southern portion of California, the
22 southern portion of Nevada, the states of Ari-
23 zona, New Mexico, Colorado and such other
24 areas that are contained within the same nat-

1 ural electricity trading market, and with head-
2 quarters located in Phoenix, Arizona.

3 (3) The establishment of three Regional Trans-
4 mission Organizations, reflecting the proposals on
5 file with the Commission as of June 1, 2002.

6 **SEC. 3. RULEMAKING.**

7 If the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission finds
8 that the establishment and implementation of the option
9 set forth in subsection 2(b)(1) or (2) would meet the geo-
10 graphic scope requirement of FERC Order No. 2000, and
11 would otherwise promote the public interest in establish-
12 ment of well functioning competitive markets in wholesale
13 electric energy, the Commission shall issue a Notice of
14 Proposed Rulemaking containing a proposal to such estab-
15 lish a Regional Transmission Organization or Regional
16 Transmission Organizations. No final rule in such rule-
17 making proceeding shall be issued prior to 180 days from
18 the date on which the Commission submits a proposed
19 final rule to the Congress.

