

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5409

To provide an environmentally sound process for the expeditious consideration and approval of a high-voltage electricity transmission line right-of-way through the Trabuco Ranger District of the Cleveland National Forest in the State of California and adjacent lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2002

Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. BONO, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. DOOLITTLE, and Mr. OSE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To provide an environmentally sound process for the expeditious consideration and approval of a high-voltage electricity transmission line right-of-way through the Trabuco Ranger District of the Cleveland National Forest in the State of California and adjacent lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.

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 “Cleveland National
3 Forest Responsible Electricity Transmission Act of 2002”.

4 **SEC. 2. ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINE RIGHT-OF-WAY.**

5 (a) ISSUANCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision
6 of law, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of
7 Agriculture shall issue all necessary grants, easements,
8 permits, plan amendments, and other approvals to allow
9 for the siting and construction of a high-voltage electricity
10 transmission line right-of-way running approximately
11 north to south through the Trabuco Ranger District of
12 the Cleveland National Forest in the State of California
13 and adjacent lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau
14 of Land Management and the Forest Service. The right-
15 of-way approvals shall provide all necessary Federal au-
16 thorization from the Secretaries of Agriculture and the In-
17 terior for the routing, construction, operation, and mainte-
18 nance of a 500 KV transmission line capable of meeting
19 the region’s long-term electricity transmission needs be-
20 tween the existing Valley-Serrano transmission line to the
21 north and the Telega-Escondido transmission line to the
22 south, and for connecting to future generating capacity
23 that may be developed in the region.

24 (b) PROTECTION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—The Sec-
25 retary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture
26 shall not allow any portion of a transmission line right-

1 of-way corridor identified in subsection (a) to enter any
2 identified wilderness area in existence as of the date of
3 the enactment of this Act.

4 (c) ENVIRONMENTAL AND ADMINSTRATIVE RE-
5 VIEW.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the
6 Bureau of Land Management, shall be the lead Federal
7 agency with overall responsibility to ensure completion of
8 required environmental and other reviews of the approvals
9 to be issued under subsection (a). For the portions of the
10 corridor on Forest Service land, the Secretary of Agri-
11 culture shall complete all required environmental reviews
12 and administrative actions, in coordination with the Sec-
13 retary of the Interior. It is anticipated that the right-of-
14 way route through the Trabuco Ranger District of the
15 Cleveland National Forest will make it unnecessary to con-
16 struct regional transmission lines through heavily popu-
17 lated lands in the Temecula Valley.

18 (d) TIME FOR ISSUANCE.—The necessary grants,
19 easements, permits, plan amendments and other approvals
20 for the transmission line right-of-way shall be issued with-
21 in 60 days after the completion of the environmental re-
22 view under subsection (c), or no later than September 30,
23 2003, whichever comes first.

24 (e) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The trans-
25 mission line right-of-way shall be subject to such terms

1 and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior and the
2 Secretary of Agriculture consider necessary, as a result
3 of the environmental review under subsection (c), to pro-
4 tect the value of historic, cultural, and natural resources
5 under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior
6 or the Department of Agriculture

