

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1230

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.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 2003

Mr. ISSA (for himself and Mr. CALVERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Cleveland National  
5 Forest Responsible Electricity Transmission Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINE RIGHT-OF-WAY,**  
2 **CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST AND ADJA-**  
3 **CENT PUBLIC LANDS, CALIFORNIA.**

4 (a) ISSUANCE.—Subject to subsection (c), the Sec-  
5 retary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture  
6 shall issue all necessary grants, easements, permits, plan  
7 amendments, and other approvals to allow for the siting  
8 and construction of a high-voltage electricity transmission  
9 line right-of-way running approximately north to south  
10 through the Trabuco Ranger District of the Cleveland Na-  
11 tional Forest in the State of California and adjacent lands  
12 under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management  
13 and the Forest Service. The right-of-way approvals shall  
14 provide all necessary Federal authorization from the Sec-  
15 retary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture for  
16 the routing, construction, operation, and maintenance of  
17 a 500 KV transmission line capable of meeting the long-  
18 term electricity transmission needs of the region between  
19 the existing Valley-Serrano transmission line to the north  
20 and the Telega–Escondido transmission line to the south,  
21 and for connecting to future generating capacity that may  
22 be developed in the region.

23 (b) PROTECTION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—The Sec-  
24 retary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture  
25 shall not allow any portion of a transmission line right-  
26 of-way corridor identified in subsection (a) to enter any

1 identified wilderness area in existence as of the date of  
2 the enactment of this Act.

3 (c) ENVIRONMENTAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE RE-  
4 VIEW.—

5 (1) DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR OR LOCAL  
6 AGENCY.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting  
7 through the Bureau of Land Management, shall be  
8 the lead Federal agency with overall responsibility to  
9 ensure completion of required environmental and  
10 other reviews of the approvals to be issued under  
11 subsection (a).

12 (2) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND.—For the  
13 portions of the corridor on National Forest System  
14 land, the Secretary of Agriculture shall complete all  
15 required environmental reviews and administrative  
16 actions, in coordination with the Secretary of the In-  
17 terior.

18 (3) EXPEDITIOUS COMPLETION.—The reviews  
19 required for issuance of the approvals under sub-  
20 section (a) shall be completed not later than one  
21 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

22 (d) TIME FOR ISSUANCE.—The necessary grants,  
23 easements, permits, plan amendments, and other approv-  
24 als for the transmission line right-of-way shall be issued

1 within 60 days after the completion of the environmental  
2 review under subsection (c).

3 (e) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The trans-  
4 mission line right-of-way shall be subject to such terms  
5 and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior and the  
6 Secretary of Agriculture consider necessary, as a result  
7 of the environmental review under subsection (c), to pro-  
8 tect the value of historic, cultural, and natural resources  
9 under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior  
10 or the Department of Agriculture.

11 (f) PREFERENCE AMONG PROPOSALS.—The Sec-  
12 retary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture  
13 shall give a preference to any application or preapplication  
14 proposal for a transmission line right-of-way, as described  
15 in subsection (a), that was submitted before December 31,  
16 2002, over all other applications and proposals for the  
17 same or similar right-of-way submitted on or after that  
18 date.

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