

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3062

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 14, 2003

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural  
Resources

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## AN ACT

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue separately, for the same area, a lease for tar sand and a lease for oil and gas, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. COMBINED HYDROCARBON LEASING.**

2 (a) SPECIAL PROVISIONS REGARDING LEASING.—

3 Section 17(b)(2) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.  
4 226(b)(2)) is amended—

5 (1) by inserting “(A)” after “(2)”; and

6 (2) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(B) The Secretary may issue under this Act for the  
8 same area, separately—

9 “(i) a lease for exploration for and extraction of  
10 tar sand; and

11 “(ii) a lease for exploration for and development  
12 of oil and gas.

13 “(C) A lease issued under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall  
14 not be further subject to the Combined Hydrocarbon Leas-  
15 ing Act of 1981 (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.).

16 “(D) A lease issued for tar sand shall be issued using  
17 the same bidding process, annual rental, and posting pe-  
18 riod as a lease issued for oil and gas, except that the min-  
19 imum acceptable bid required for a lease issued for tar  
20 sand shall be \$2 per acre.

21 “(E) The Secretary may waive, suspend, or alter any  
22 requirement under section 26 that a permittee under a  
23 permit authorizing prospecting for tar sand must exercise  
24 due diligence, to promote any resource covered by a com-  
25 bined hydrocarbon lease.”.

1           (b)           CONFORMING           AMENDMENT.—Section  
2 17(b)(1)(B) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.  
3 226(b)(1)(B)) is amended in the second sentence by in-  
4 serting “, subject to paragraph (2)(B),” after “the Sec-  
5 retary”.

6 **SEC. 2. REGULATIONS.**

7           Within 45 days after the date of the enactment of  
8 this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall issue final reg-  
9 ulations to implement this Act.

          Passed the House of Representatives October 8,  
2003.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,  
*Clerk.*