

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4160

To authorize the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior to jointly establish a program, in partnership with the private sector, to support research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities related to advanced hydrogen-based motorboat propulsion technologies suitable for operations in sensitive resource areas such as national parks, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2004

Mr. RENZI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior to jointly establish a program, in partnership with the private sector, to support research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities related to advanced hydrogen-based motorboat propulsion technologies suitable for operations in sensitive resource areas such as national parks, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Grand Canyon Hydro-
3 gen-Powered Motorboat Demonstration Act of 2004”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 For purposes of this Act, the term—

6 (1) “Departments” means the Department of
7 Energy jointly with the Department of the Interior;
8 and

9 (2) “Secretaries” means the Secretary of En-
10 ergy jointly with the Secretary of the Interior.

11 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

12 The Congress finds that—

13 (1) there is a need for a research and develop-
14 ment program to support and foster the develop-
15 ment, demonstration, and deployment of emerging
16 hydrogen-based motorboat propulsion technologies
17 suitable for use in sensitive resource areas;

18 (2) partnerships between the Department of
19 Energy, the Department of the Interior, and United
20 States industry to develop hydrogen-based energy
21 technologies can provide significant benefits to our
22 Nation, including enhancing our environmental stew-
23 ardship, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, in-
24 creasing our energy security, as well as creating jobs
25 for United States workers and improving the com-

1 petitive position of the United States in the global
2 economy; and

3 (3) when technologically and economically fea-
4 sible, the implementation of clean, silent or nearly
5 silent, hydrogen-based motorboat propulsion tech-
6 nologies would further resource stewardship and ex-
7 periential goals in sensitive resource areas including
8 units of the National Park System, such as Grand
9 Canyon National Park, where motor-powered
10 watercraft are used for recreational and other pur-
11 poses.

12 **SEC. 4. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION**
13 **PROGRAM.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall jointly es-
15 tablish and carry out a research and development pro-
16 gram, in partnership with the private sector, relating to
17 hydrogen-based motorboat propulsion technologies suit-
18 able for operations in sensitive resource areas such as na-
19 tional parks. The Secretaries, in partnership with the pri-
20 vate sector, shall conduct a demonstration of hydrogen-
21 based motorboat propulsion technology at Grand Canyon
22 National Park within three years after the date of enact-
23 ment of this Act. At his discretion, the Secretary of En-
24 ergy may choose to extend existing Department of Energy
25 hydrogen-related vehicle research and development pro-

1 grams in order to meet the objectives and requirements
2 of this Act.

3 (b) OBJECTIVE.—The objective of the program shall
4 be to research, develop, and demonstrate, in cooperation
5 with affected and related industries, a hydrogen-based al-
6 ternative motorboat propulsion system suitable for rec-
7 reational whitewater river operations on the Colorado
8 River within Grand Canyon National Park, that meets the
9 following standards:

10 (1) Silent or near-silent operation, meaning the
11 propulsion system should generally not be audible
12 over the sound of the watercraft moving through the
13 water to a listener stationed a moderate distance
14 away.

15 (2) Low, ultra low, or zero emission of pollut-
16 ants.

17 (3) Reliability.

18 (4) Safe conveyance of passengers and crew.

19 (c) PARTNERSHIP.—In order to accomplish the objec-
20 tive set forth in subsection (b), the Secretaries shall estab-
21 lish a partnership among the Departments, manufactur-
22 ers, other affected or related industries, and the National
23 Park Service concessioners authorized to provide river
24 running services in Grand Canyon National Park.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

2 One year after the date of enactment of this Act, and
3 annually thereafter for the duration of the program, the
4 Secretaries shall submit a report to the Committees on
5 Appropriations, Resources, and Energy and Commerce of
6 the House of Representatives and the Committees on Ap-
7 propriations and Energy and Natural Resources of the
8 Senate describing the ongoing activities of the Secretaries
9 and the Departments relating to the program authorized
10 under this Act and, to the extent practicable, the activities
11 planned for the coming fiscal year.

12 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secre-
14 taries to carry out this Act, in addition to any amounts
15 made available for these or related purposes under other
16 Acts, \$400,000 per year for three consecutive fiscal years
17 beginning with the full fiscal year following the date of
18 enactment of this Act.

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