

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 519

To amend the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 to authorize additional projects and activities under that Act, and for other purposes

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 3, 2005

Mrs. HUTCHISON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 to authorize additional projects and activities under that Act, 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 “Lower Rio Grande Val-
5 ley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act
6 of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL PROJECTS AND**
2 **ACTIVITIES UNDER THE LOWER RIO GRANDE**
3 **WATER CONSERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (a) **ADDITIONAL PROJECTS.**—Section 4(a) of the
6 Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation
7 and Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–576; 114
8 Stat. 3067) is amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(20) In Cameron County, Texas, Bayview Irri-
10 gation District No. 11, water conservation and im-
11 provement projects as identified in the March 3,
12 2004, engineering report by NRS Consulting Engi-
13 neers at a cost of \$1,425,219.

14 “(21) In the Cameron County, Texas, Browns-
15 ville Irrigation District, water conservation and im-
16 provement projects as identified in the February 11,
17 2004, engineering report by NRS Consulting Engi-
18 neers at a cost of \$722,100.

19 “(22) In the Cameron County, Texas Harlingen
20 Irrigation District No. 1, water conservation and im-
21 provement projects as identified in the March, 2004,
22 engineering report by Axiom-Blair Engineering at a
23 cost of \$4,173,950.

24 “(23) In the Cameron County, Texas, Cameron
25 County Irrigation District No. 2, water conservation
26 and improvement projects as identified in the Feb-

1 ruary 11, 2004, engineering report by NRS Con-
2 sulting Engineers at a cost of \$8,269,576.

3 “(24) In the Cameron County, Texas, Cameron
4 County Irrigation District No. 6, water conservation
5 and improvement projects as identified in an engi-
6 neering report by Turner Collie Braden, Inc., at a
7 cost of \$5,607,300.

8 “(25) In the Cameron County, Texas, Adams
9 Gardens Irrigation District No. 19, water conserva-
10 tion and improvement projects as identified in the
11 March, 2004, engineering report by Axiom-Blair En-
12 gineering at a cost of \$2,500,000.

13 “(26) In the Hidalgo and Cameron Counties,
14 Texas, Hidalgo and Cameron Counties Irrigation
15 District No. 9, water conservation and improvement
16 projects as identified by the February 11 engineer-
17 ing report by NRS Consulting Engineers at a cost
18 of \$8,929,152.

19 “(27) In the Hidalgo and Willacy Counties,
20 Texas, Delta Lake Irrigation District, water con-
21 servation and improvement projects as identified in
22 the March, 2004, engineering report by Axiom-Blair
23 Engineering at a cost of \$8,000,000.

24 “(28) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Hidalgo
25 County Irrigation District No. 2, a water conserva-

1 tion and improvement project identified in the engi-
2 neering reports attached to a letter dated February
3 11, 2004, from the district's general manager, at a
4 cost of \$5,312,475.

5 “(29) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Hidalgo
6 County Irrigation District No. 1, water conservation
7 and improvement projects identified in an engineer-
8 ing report dated March 5, 2004, by Melden and
9 Hunt, Inc. at a cost of \$5,595,018.

10 “(30) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Hidalgo
11 County Irrigation District No. 6, water conservation
12 and improvement projects as identified in the
13 March, 2004, engineering report by Axiom-Blair En-
14 gineering at a cost of \$3,450,000.

15 “(31) In the Hidalgo County, Texas Santa
16 Cruz Irrigation District No. 15, water conservation
17 and improvement projects as identified in an engi-
18 neering report dated March 5, 2004, by Melden and
19 Hunt at a cost of \$4,609,000.

20 “(32) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Engelman
21 Irrigation District, water conservation and improve-
22 ment projects as identified in an engineering report
23 dated March 5, 2004, by Melden and Hunt, Inc. at
24 a cost of \$2,251,480.

1 “(33) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Valley
2 Acres Water District, water conservation and im-
3 provement projects as identified in an engineering
4 report dated March, 2004, by Axiom-Blair Engineer-
5 ing at a cost of \$500,000.

6 “(34) In the Hudspeth County, Texas,
7 Hudspeth County Conservation and Reclamation
8 District No. 1, water conservation and improvement
9 projects as identified in the March, 2004, engineer-
10 ing report by Axiom-Blair Engineering at a cost of
11 \$1,500,000.

12 “(35) In the El Paso County, Texas, El Paso
13 County Water Improvement District No. 1, water
14 conservation and improvement projects as identified
15 in the March, 2004, engineering report by Axiom-
16 Blair Engineering at a cost of \$10,500,000.

17 “(36) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Donna Ir-
18 rigation District, water conservation and improve-
19 ment projects identified in an engineering report
20 dated March 22, 2004, by Melden and Hunt, Inc. at
21 a cost of \$2,500,000.

22 “(37) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Hidalgo
23 County Irrigation District No. 16, water conserva-
24 tion and improvement projects identified in an engi-

1 neering report dated March 22, 2004, by Melden
2 and Hunt, Inc. at a cost of \$2,800,000.

3 “(38) The United Irrigation District of Hidalgo
4 County water conservation and improvement
5 projects identified in a March, 2004, engineering re-
6 port by Sigler Winston, Greenwood and Associates
7 at a cost of \$6,067,021.”.

8 (b) INCLUSION OF ACTIVITIES TO CONSERVE WATER
9 OR IMPROVE SUPPLY; TRANSFERS AMONG PROJECTS.—
10 Section 4 of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Re-
11 sources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 (Pub-
12 lic Law 106–576; 114 Stat. 3067) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
14 section (e); and

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(c) INCLUSION OF ACTIVITIES TO CONSERVE
18 WATER OR IMPROVE SUPPLY.—In addition to the activi-
19 ties identified in the engineering reports referred to in
20 subsection (a), each project that the Secretary conducts
21 or participates in under subsection (a) may include any
22 of the following:

23 “(1) The replacement of irrigation canals and
24 lateral canals with buried pipelines.

1 “(2) The impervious lining of irrigation canals
2 and lateral canals.

3 “(3) Installation of water level, flow measure-
4 ment, pump control, and telemetry systems.

5 “(4) The renovation and replacement of pump-
6 ing plants.

7 “(5) Other activities that will result in the con-
8 servation of water or an improved supply of water.

9 “(d) TRANSFERS AMONG PROJECTS.—Of amounts
10 made available for a project referred to in any of para-
11 graphs (20) through (38) of subsection (a), the Secretary
12 may transfer and use for another such project up to 10
13 percent.”.

14 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR**
15 **LOWER RIO GRANDE CONSTRUCTION.**

16 Section 4(e) of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water
17 Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000
18 (Public Law 106–576; 114 Stat. 3067) (as redesignated
19 by section 2(b)) is amended by inserting before the period
20 the following: “for projects referred to in paragraphs (1)
21 through (19) of subsection (a), and \$42,356,145 (2004
22 dollars) for projects referred to in paragraphs (20)
23 through (38) of subsection (a)”.

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