

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3465

To promote greater cooperation with local governments in connection with
environmental analyses of certain water projects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 4, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To promote greater cooperation with local governments in
connection with environmental analyses of certain water
projects.

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, FINDINGS, AND PURPOSE.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Greater Cooperation with Local Governments in Water
6 Project Analysis Act”.

7 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The diversion of water from one river basin
9 to another can have major effects on the environ-
10 ment and economy of affected areas.

1 (2) The Federal Government should afford af-
2 fected local governments ample opportunity to be in-
3 volved with the development and implementation
4 each of such diversion projects as cooperating agen-
5 cies for purposes of the analysis of such project re-
6 quired by the National Environmental Policy Act of
7 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

8 (3) Federal agencies have not always agreed to
9 requests by affected local governments to become co-
10 operating agencies.

11 (c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to require
12 that a qualified local government be treated as a cooper-
13 ating agency with regard to an analysis under the Na-
14 tional Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321
15 et seq.) of any water project that involves diversion of
16 water from the basin of one river to the basin of any other
17 river.

18 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT AND DEFINITIONS.**

19 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Upon request of a qualified
20 local government with regard to an analysis under the Na-
21 tional Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321
22 et seq.) of any project within the scope of this Act, the
23 Secretary concerned shall treat such government for pur-
24 poses of such analysis as if such government is a Federal
25 agency afforded the status of a cooperating agency under

1 part 1501 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, as in
2 effect on August 1, 2007.

3 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act, the following defini-
4 tions apply:

5 (1) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term the
6 “Secretary concerned” means the Secretary of the
7 Interior with respect to activities of the Bureau of
8 Reclamation and the Secretary of the Army with re-
9 spect to activities of the Corps of Engineers.

10 (2) QUALIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The
11 term “qualified local government”, as used with re-
12 spect to a project within the scope of this Act,
13 means a county or other political subdivision of a
14 State which has jurisdiction over any area that in-
15 cludes any portion of the project.

16 (3) PROJECT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THIS
17 ACT.—The term “project within the scope of this
18 Act” means a water project undertaken by the Bu-
19 reau of Reclamation or the Corps of Engineers that
20 would result in initial or increased diversion of water
21 from the basin of one river to the basin of any other
22 river.

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