

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 964

To amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to exempt any solar energy project on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management from an environmental impact statement requirement.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 2009

Mr. ROHRABACHER (for himself, Mr. JONES, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. FOXX, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mrs. MYRICK, and Mr. BILBRAY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to exempt any solar energy project on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management from an environmental impact statement requirement.

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 “Emergency Solar
5 Power Permit Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXEMPTION OF SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS FROM**
2 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT RE-**
3 **QUIREMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the National Environ-
5 mental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4331 et seq.) is
6 amended by adding at the end the following new section:
7 “SEC. 106. No action relating to the development, de-
8 ployment, or operation of a solar energy project on lands
9 managed by the Bureau of Land Management shall be
10 considered a major Federal action for the purposes of sec-
11 tion 102(2)(C).”.

12 (b) EFFECT FOR STATEMENTS UNDERWAY.—Each
13 department and agency of the Federal Government shall
14 cease the preparation of a statement, commenced pursu-
15 ant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental
16 Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)), for any action
17 described in the amendment made by subsection (a), to
18 the extent that the preparation of such statement would
19 delay or otherwise interfere with such action.

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