

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5349

To reduce government-imposed obstacles to profitability and accessibility for new electric energy projects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 26, 2016

Mr. KNIGHT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reduce government-imposed obstacles to profitability and accessibility for new electric energy 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Energy Contracting
5 Opportunities Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF CONTRACT PERIODS FOR ENERGY.**

7 Section 501(b)(1)(B) of title 40, United States Code,
8 is amended to read as follows:

1 “(B) PUBLIC UTILITY CONTRACTS.—

2 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
3 vided in clause (ii), a contract for public
4 utility services may be made for a period
5 of not more than 10 years.

6 “(ii) ENERGY CONTRACTS.—A con-
7 tract may be made for a period of not
8 more than 30 years for the acquisition of
9 renewable energy or energy from cogenera-
10 tion facilities.”.

11 **SEC. 3. EFFECT OF ENERGY PROJECTS ON BIRDS.**

12 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Energy and the Sec-
13 retary of the Interior shall establish, or designate and
14 modify as necessary, an interagency working group to
15 study the effects that the development of the various sec-
16 tors of the energy industry has had on bird populations.
17 Such study shall analyze—

18 (1) baseline avian populations and mortality;

19 and

20 (2) the quantifiable impacts of energy projects
21 on birds, relative to other threats to birds.

22 (b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 2 years
23 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
24 Energy and the Secretary of the Interior shall make the

- 1 results of such study publicly available on the websites of
- 2 their respective Departments.

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