

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1485

To provide for the advancement of energy-water efficiency research,
development, and deployment activities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 2, 2015

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

A BILL

To provide for the advancement of energy-water efficiency
research, development, and deployment activities.

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 “Water Efficiency Inno-
5 vation Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
9 means the Department of Energy.

1 (2) INDUSTRIAL ASSESSMENT CENTER.—The
 2 term “Industrial Assessment Center” means a cen-
 3 ter located at an institution of higher education
 4 that—

5 (A) receives funding from the Department;

6 (B) provides an in-depth assessment of
 7 small- and medium-sized manufacturer plant
 8 sites to evaluate the facilities, services, and
 9 manufacturing operations of the plant sites;
 10 and

11 (C) identifies opportunities for potential
 12 savings for small- and medium-sized manufac-
 13 turer plant sites from energy efficiency improve-
 14 ments, waste minimization, pollution preven-
 15 tion, and productivity improvement.

16 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 17 the Secretary of Energy.

18 **SEC. 3. LEVERAGING EXISTING AGENCY PROGRAMS TO AD-**
 19 **VANCE ENERGY-WATER EFFICIENCY.**

20 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

21 (1) through the Industrial Assessment Centers
 22 of the Department, the Department provides tech-
 23 nical assistance to facilitate efficiency improvements
 24 at small- and medium-sized manufacturers while
 25 training engineering students for energy careers;

1 (2) the efficiency improvements described in
2 paragraph (1) reduce energy demand, help manufac-
3 turers operate more competitively, and catalyze the
4 use of new technologies and best practices;

5 (3) water and wastewater treatment are energy-
6 intensive processes, and opportunities for efficiency
7 upgrades can be limited by technical expertise, par-
8 ticularly at small utilities; and

9 (4) through the Industrial Assessment Centers
10 of the Department, the Department has recently en-
11 gaged with the Environmental Protection Agency in
12 a pilot effort to target energy efficiency in water and
13 wastewater treatment facilities.

14 (b) EXPANSION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The
15 Secretary shall expand the Industrial Assessment Centers
16 of the Department, working across Federal agencies as
17 necessary—

18 (1) to provide comparable assessment services
19 to water and wastewater treatment facilities, includ-
20 ing systems that treat municipal, industrial, and ag-
21 ricultural waste; and

22 (2) to equip the Directors of the Industrial As-
23 sessment Centers with the training and tools nec-
24 essary to provide technical assistance on energy sav-
25 ings to those facilities.

1 **SEC. 4. FUNDING.**

2 The Secretary shall carry out this Act using unobli-
3 gated funds of the Department.

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