

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6814

To require the Secretary of Energy to establish and carry out a program to provide financial assistance to units of local government impacted by the reduction in tax revenue from nuclear power plants.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR (for herself and Mr. WELCH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Energy to establish and carry out a program to provide financial assistance to units of local government impacted by the reduction in tax revenue from nuclear power plants.

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 “Troubled Nuclear
5 Power Plants Communities Assistance Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITIES WITH TROUBLED**
7 **NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS PROGRAM.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The markets for electricity generation are
2 rapidly evolving due to the very low cost of natural
3 gas such that many nuclear power plants are no
4 longer economically competitive.

5 (2) Over the past 5 years, 18 nuclear power
6 plants have permanently closed or have announced
7 plans to close.

8 (3) The impact of closure of a nuclear power
9 plant on the local economy can be severe due to the
10 loss of jobs and a reduced tax base.

11 (4) Closure of a nuclear power plant typically
12 means the loss of 400 to 700 highly paid workers.

13 (5) A typical reactor has estimated wages for
14 workers of \$40 million annually.

15 (6) Nuclear power plants are among the largest
16 taxpayers in the jurisdictions in which they are
17 sited, typically contributing tens of millions of dol-
18 lars in local taxes.

19 (7) When calculating the total tax impact (di-
20 rect and secondary), the average nuclear power plant
21 provides over \$100 million in tax revenue each year
22 to the local and State governments.

23 (8) The closure of a nuclear power plant causes
24 significant negative impacts to the GDPs of the af-
25 fected States.

1 (9) Stranded spent nuclear fuel prevents com-
2 munities from redeveloping sites where nuclear
3 power plants previously operated which further in-
4 hibits tax revenues.

5 (b) ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITIES WITH TROU-
6 BLED NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS PROGRAM.—

7 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of En-
8 ergy shall establish and carry out a program to be
9 known as the “Assistance for Communities with
10 Troubled Nuclear Power Plants Program” (in this
11 section referred to as the “Program”) to provide fi-
12 nancial assistance to units of local government who
13 have experienced a reduction in tax revenue from
14 nuclear power plants.

15 (2) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—In this
16 section, a unit of local government includes a coun-
17 ty, city, town, village, school district, and special dis-
18 trict.

19 (3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive fi-
20 nancial assistance under this section, a unit of local
21 government shall submit to the Secretary of Energy
22 an application that includes documentation that—

23 (A) the unit of local government has expe-
24 rienced, or is predicted to experience, during a

1 calendar year beginning after December 31,
2 2014, and ending before January 1, 2025—

3 (i) a reduction of not less than 20
4 percent in overall tax revenue received by
5 such unit of local government for such year
6 compared with the average of such tax rev-
7 enue for the previous 5 years; and

8 (ii) a reduction in tax revenue attrib-
9 utable to a nuclear power plant received by
10 such unit of local government for such
11 year, compared with the average of such
12 tax revenue for the previous 5 years, that
13 is not less than 20 percent of the average
14 for such previous 5 years of the overall tax
15 revenue received by such unit; and

16 (B) spent nuclear fuel is stored at the site
17 of such nuclear power plant.

18 (4) ASSISTANCE.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to amounts
20 made available in advance in appropriations
21 Acts, financial assistance provided under this
22 section to a unit of local government shall be
23 made with respect to each year of the 8-year
24 period beginning on the first day of the cal-
25 endar year described in paragraph (3)(A).

1 (B) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—Subject to
2 amounts made available in advance in appro-
3 priations Acts, financial assistance provided
4 under this section to a unit of local government
5 for a year of an 8-year period shall be equal to
6 the lesser of \$10,000,000 and—

7 (i) in the case of the first year of the
8 8-year period, 80 percent of the loss de-
9 scribed in paragraph (3)(A)(ii) with re-
10 spect to such unit;

11 (ii) in the case of the second year of
12 the 8-year period, 70 percent of such loss;

13 (iii) in the case of the third year of
14 the 8-year period, 60 percent of such loss;

15 (iv) in the case of the fourth year of
16 the 8-year period, 50 percent of such loss;

17 (v) in the case of the fifth year of the
18 8-year period, 40 percent of such loss;

19 (vi) in the case of the sixth year of
20 the 8-year period, 30 percent of such loss;

21 (vii) in the case of the seventh year of
22 the 8-year period, 20 percent of such loss;

23 and

24 (viii) in the case of the eighth year of
25 the 8-year period, 10 percent of such loss.

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$80,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2031.

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