

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2151

To streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

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

A BILL

To streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, and for other purposes.

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. COMPLIANCE WITH BLM PERMITTING.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
5 sion of law but subject to any State requirements, a Bu-
6 reau of Land Management drilling permit shall not be re-
7 quired under the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Manage-
8 ment Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) or section
9 3164.1 of title 43, Code of Federal Regulations (or a suc-

cessor regulation), for an action occurring within an oil and gas drilling or spacing unit if—

(1) less than 50 percent of the minerals within the oil and gas drilling or spacing unit are minerals owned by the Federal Government; and

(2) the Federal Government does not own or lease the surface estate within the boundaries of the oil and gas drilling or spacing unit.

(b) EFFECT.—Nothing in this Act affects the right of the Federal Government to receive royalties due to the Federal Government from the production of the Federal minerals within the oil and gas drilling or spacing unit.

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