

Calendar No. 653

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3743

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a feasibility study on a selective water withdrawal system at Glen Canyon Dam, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 29, 2026

Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. CURTIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

Reported by Mr. LEE, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a feasibility study on a selective water withdrawal system at Glen Canyon Dam, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. GLEN CANYON DAM SELECTIVE WATER WITH-**
2 **DRAWAL SYSTEM FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior
4 (acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation) (re-
5 ferred to in this section as the “Secretary”), in consulta-
6 tion with the Secretary of Energy and Colorado River
7 Storage Project power contractors, shall carry out a feasi-
8 bility study (including all hydrological modeling) on a se-
9 lective water withdrawal system at Glen Canyon Dam to
10 optimize hydropower generation when releasing cold water
11 from Glen Canyon Dam, while also preventing entrain-
12 ment of invasive species, pursuant to the 2016 Long-Term
13 Experimental and Management Plan Record of Decision
14 and the 2024 Long-Term Experimental and Management
15 Plan Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and
16 Record of Decision.

17 (b) FEASIBILITY DETERMINATION.—If the Secretary
18 determines that a selective water withdrawal system alter-
19 native studied under subsection (a) is feasible under the
20 reclamation laws, the Secretary may, if the Colorado River
21 Storage Project power contractors concur with the alter-
22 native chosen, begin compliance with, and construction of,
23 the chosen alternative.

24 (c) FEASIBILITY STUDY DEADLINE.—The Secretary
25 shall complete the feasibility study required under sub-

1 section (a) not later than 18 months after the date of en-
 2 actment of this Act.

3 ~~(d) FUNDING.—~~

4 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~The costs of the feasibility
 5 study under subsection (a) shall be paid for by the
 6 Secretary using appropriated funds.

7 ~~(2) TREATMENT OF FUNDS.—~~Any Federal
 8 funds made available to carry out this section shall
 9 be nonreimbursable and nonreturnable to the United
 10 States.

11 ~~(3) IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS.—~~Not later
 12 than 90 days after the date of enactment of this
 13 Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Sec-
 14 retary of Energy and Colorado River Storage
 15 Project power contractors, shall identify sources of
 16 available funds to carry out this section.

17 ~~(e) EFFECT.—~~Nothing in this section affects the
 18 post-2026 Colorado River reservoir operations guidelines
 19 and strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead in effect
 20 before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

21 **SECTION 1. GLEN CANYON DAM FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

22 *(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (act-*
 23 *ing through the Commissioner of Reclamation) (referred to*
 24 *in this section as the “Secretary”), in consultation with the*
 25 *Secretary of Energy, the Director of the United States Fish*

1 *and Wildlife Service, the Director of the United States Geo-*
 2 *logical Survey, the Colorado River Basin States, and Colo-*
 3 *rado River Storage Project power contractors, shall carry*
 4 *out a feasibility study (including all hydrological modeling)*
 5 *to analyze alternatives (including infrastructure upgrades)*
 6 *to address downstream invasive species at Glen Canyon*
 7 *Dam.*

8 (b) *INCLUDED ALTERNATIVES.*—*The alternatives ana-*
 9 *lyzed under subsection (a) may include a thermal curtain*
 10 *or a selective water withdrawal system at Glen Canyon*
 11 *Dam to optimize hydropower generation when releasing*
 12 *cold water from Glen Canyon Dam, while also preventing*
 13 *entrainment of invasive species, pursuant to the 2016 Long-*
 14 *Term Experimental and Management Plan Supplemental*
 15 *Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision*
 16 *and section 1802 of the Grand Canyon Protection Act of*
 17 *1992 (Public Law 102–575; 106 Stat. 4669).*

18 (c) *FEASIBILITY DETERMINATION.*—*If the Secretary*
 19 *determines that an alternative studied under subsection (a)*
 20 *is feasible under the reclamation laws, the Secretary may*
 21 *initiate design, construction, and associated activities of,*
 22 *as applicable, the recommended alternative, including any*
 23 *necessary policy actions allowable under the reclamation*
 24 *laws.*

1 (d) *FEASIBILITY REPORT*.—After completion of the
2 *feasibility study required under subsection (a), the Sec-*
3 *retary shall develop a summarized feasibility study report*
4 *that includes, at a minimum—*

5 (1) *an analysis of the alternatives analyzed and*
6 *identification of the recommended alternative;*

7 (2) *an allocation of the construction, operation,*
8 *maintenance, and replacement costs of the rec-*
9 *ommended alternative to the authorized purposes of*
10 *the Colorado River Storage Project;*

11 (3) *the major structural features and non-*
12 *structural features of the recommended alternative,*
13 *any special considerations for implementation of the*
14 *recommended alternative, and the estimated cost of*
15 *implementation of the recommended alternative;*

16 (4) *an analysis of the effects of the recommended*
17 *alternative on hydropower production and rates,*
18 *which shall be developed in consultation with the*
19 *Western Area Power Administration;*

20 (5) *a recommendation of the Secretary on wheth-*
21 *er—*

22 (A) *the recommended alternative is found to*
23 *be technically and financially feasible in accord-*
24 *ance with the reclamation laws; and*

1 (B) the recommended alternative should be
2 authorized for construction; and

3 (6) any other recommendations determined to be
4 necessary by the Secretary.

5 (e) *FEASIBILITY STUDY AND FEASIBILITY REPORT*
6 *DEADLINES.*—The Secretary shall—

7 (1) not later than 18 months after the date of en-
8 actment of this Act, complete the feasibility study re-
9 quired under subsection (a); and

10 (2) not later than 90 days after the date on
11 which the Secretary completes the feasibility report
12 required under subsection (d), submit to the Com-
13 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
14 ate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the
15 House of Representatives the feasibility report re-
16 quired under that subsection.

17 (f) *FUNDING.*—

18 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—The costs of the feasibility
19 study required under subsection (a) shall be paid for
20 by the Secretary using appropriated funds.

21 (2) *TREATMENT OF FUNDS.*—Any Federal funds
22 made available to carry out this section shall be non-
23 reimbursable and nonreturnable to the United States.

24 (3) *IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS.*—Not later than
25 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the

1 *Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of En-*
2 *ergy and Colorado River Storage Project power con-*
3 *tractors, shall identify sources of available funds to*
4 *carry out this section.*

5 *(g) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section affects the cri-*
6 *teria for the coordinated long-range operations of Colorado*
7 *River reservoirs pursuant to section 602 of the Colorado*
8 *River Basin Project Act (Public Law 90–537; 82 Stat. 900).*
9 *(h) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority pro-*
10 *vided by this section expires on the date that is 5 years*
11 *after the date of enactment of this Act.*

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