

project for not more than three consecutive 2-year periods.

This extension bill faces no opposition. In keeping with the practice of granting license extensions, H.R. 1184 is a noncontroversial, easy yes vote, and I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 1184.

Mr. Speaker, finally, I wish to thank the gentleman from Colorado, and I certainly want to thank the gentleman from Washington for bringing this important legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF].

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the chairman, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. BLILEY, and the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. DAN SCHAEFER, for considering the next two bills, H.R. 1184 and H.R. 1217, and I appreciate their willingness to work with me on renewing these projects. These are important projects to my district.

The project is located in Skagit County and will result in no new or increased budget authority or tax expenditures or revenues. This facility has operated from 1906 to 1969 when it ceased operation. FERC issued a construction license in 1993 which will expire December 10, 1997. This bill will extend the deadline for the commencement of construction for three, 2-year periods. Such an extension is common on projects where construction has been delayed due to factors outside of the licensee's control. For example, to date, construction has not commenced because of a lack of a power purchase agreement to support project construction financing. As a result of destabilization of the electricity industry and spot prices and, therefore, a market condition such that no power sales contract can be executed.

The legislation provides for up to three consecutive, 2-year extensions, instead of a 6-year extension, to assure that the licensee must continue to meet the section 13 requirement that it prosecute each 2-year extension. If FERC determines the licensee is not acting in good faith, it is expected that FERC will refuse to grant a request for an extension for an additional 2-year extension.

This project has received no challenges and has been determined environmentally sound and nonthreatening by all applicable local, State, and Federal agencies. The Bear Creek facility is located entirely on private property.

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. DAN SCHAEFER, that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1184, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 1184, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1559

Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I request my name be removed as cosponsor of H.R. 1559.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

EXTENDING DEADLINE FOR HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT IN WASHINGTON STATE

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1217) to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1217

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF DEADLINE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 10359, the Commission shall, at the request of the project licensee, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to complete construction of the project to May 4, 2004.

(b) REPORTS.—The licensee for the project described in subsection (a) shall file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, on December 31 of each year until construction of the project is completed, a report on the status of the project.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. DAN SCHAEFER, and the gentleman from Texas, Mr. HALL, each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. DAN SCHAEFER.

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 5 minutes.

(Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1230

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1217 would direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the deadline for the completion of construction of the Youngs Creek hydroelectric project in the State of Washington. The commencement of construction of this

project was initiated in a timely manner, and the project developer expended about 25 percent of total project cost, which is \$5.3 million. However, the developer has been unable to secure financing to complete project construction due to uncertainties in the electric industry.

H.R. 1217 extends the deadline for the completion of construction until May 4, 2004. As is the case with others, the extension under the bill does not change or alter the environmental requirements in any way. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has no objection to this legislation. I would urge support of H.R. 1217.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. Hall of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1217, which, like the previous bill, was introduced by the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF], my good friend. This bill is exactly like the previous non-controversial hydroelectric project extension, but it is very important to the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] and is important to his district and his State.

As proven in the past, congressional extension legislation has been non-controversial and without opposition from FERC. This practice holds true with H.R. 1217. These are easy yes votes, and I strongly urge my colleagues to join in supporting the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] in H.R. 1217.

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would also like to congratulate the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] for his excellent work on these last two bills. I know it is very, very important to the State of Washington, his district.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, the project is located in Snohomish County and will result in no new or increased budget authority or tax expenditures or revenues. This facility has 25 percent of the total cost—\$5 million—already invested in construction, and this legislation will extend the time to complete construction for an additional 6 years from May 4, 1998, to May 4, 2004. Two of those years will be consumed by actual construction needed to complete the project.

This legislation will assure that the site is preserved for final construction. This is especially important because construction has already begun although a power sales agreement was not obtained. There is precedent for FERC to grant commencement extensions when construction has been delayed due to market conditions that are such that no power sales contract can be executed. For example, to date, construction has commenced although has been halted because of a lack of a power purchase agreement to support project construction financing. As a result of destabilization of the electricity industry and spot prices

and, therefore, a market condition such that no power sales contract can be executed.

Again, the legislation provides for a 6-year construction extension. This is not an unreasonable request for a project already under construction. This project has received no challenges and has been determined environmentally sound and nonthreatening by all applicable local, State, and Federal agencies.

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. DAN SCHAEFER, that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1217.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill H.R. 1217 was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1217, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

RELATING TO 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF REUNIFICATION OF THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 60) relating to the 30th anniversary of the reunification of the city of Jerusalem.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 60

Whereas for 3,000 years Jerusalem has been the focal point of Jewish religious devotion;

Whereas Jerusalem today is also considered a holy city by members of the Christian and Muslim faiths;

Whereas there has been a continuous Jewish presence in Jerusalem for three millennia and a Jewish majority in the city since the 1840's;

Whereas the once thriving Jewish majority of the historic Old City of Jerusalem was driven out by force during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War;

Whereas from 1948 to 1967 Jerusalem was a divided city and Israeli citizens of all faiths as well as Jewish citizens of all states were denied access to holy sites in the area controlled by Jordan;

Whereas in 1967 Jerusalem was reunited by Israel during the conflict known as the Six Day War;

Whereas since 1967 Jerusalem has been a united city, and persons of all religious faiths have been guaranteed full access to holy sites within the city;

Whereas this year marks the 30th year that Jerusalem has been administered as a unified city in which the rights of all faiths have been respected and protected;

Whereas in 1990 the United States Senate and House of Representatives overwhelmingly adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution

106 and House Concurrent Resolution 290 declaring that Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, "must remain an undivided city" and calling on Israel and the Palestinians to undertake negotiations to resolve their differences;

Whereas Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel later cited Senate Concurrent Resolution 106 as having "helped our neighbors reach the negotiating table" to produce the historic Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed in Washington, D.C. on September 13, 1993; and Whereas the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-45), which became law on November 8, 1995, states as a matter of United States policy that Jerusalem should remain the undivided capital of Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) congratulates the residents of Jerusalem and the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of that historic city;

(2) strongly believes that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city in which the rights of every ethnic and religious group are protected as they have been by Israel during the past 30 years;

(3) calls upon the President and the Secretary of State to affirm publicly as a matter of United States policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of the State of Israel; and

(4) urges United States officials to refrain from any actions that contradict this policy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. Gilman asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 60, legislation that I sponsored with our colleague from New York, Mr. SCHUMER, which commemorates the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] for his leadership on this issue and commend him for his steadfast commitment to Israel and Jerusalem. I also want to commend our ranking minority member, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], for his support of this legislation.

The legislation before us today reinforces the strong relationship between the American people and the nation of Israel. From Israel's independence in 1948 until the miraculous reunification of Jerusalem in 1967's Six-Day War, Jerusalem was a divided city and Israeli citizens of all faiths, as well as Jewish citizens of all states, were denied access to holy sites in the area, which was controlled by Jordan. The once thriving Jewish majority of the historic Old City of Jerusalem was driven out by force in 1948, not to return again for 19 long years.

Despite the more than 3,000 years of Jewish residency in Jerusalem, Jews were once again cast out from King David's capital by overwhelming force.

Once Jerusalem was one city again, the Israeli Government took important steps to guarantee freedom of religious access, not only to the Jews who had been denied their holy sites all those years, but also for Christians and Muslims. With the reunification of the city under Israel's jurisdiction, persons of all religious faiths have been guaranteed full access to their holy sites in Jerusalem.

Congress, in its role as the representative of the American people, has stated its support for Jerusalem as the capital of Israel on numerous occasions. We believe that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city forever. Indeed, the landmark legislation which became law in 1995, the Jerusalem Embassy Relocation Act, states these beliefs as a matter of U.S. policy.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 60 congratulates the residents of Jerusalem and the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of that historic city; reiterates the belief that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city in which the rights of every ethnic and religious group are going to be protected as they have been by Israel during the past 30 years. It also calls upon the President and the Secretary of State to affirm publicly as a matter of United States policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of the State of Israel; and urges United States officials to refrain from any actions that contradict this policy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues' strong support for this important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have any further requests for statements. I would like to thank the Speaker, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH], for his special interest in this resolution, as well as the balance of the leadership on both sides of the aisle for their support of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 60.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to note that the legislative business on suspensions will be concluded with the adoption of this resolution and that any Members having amendments with regard to the State Department authorization measure are urged to come to the floor at this time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am going to rise in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 60 relating to the 30th anniversary of the reunification of the city of Israel. I do so