

or any related environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment, each scientific product the Secretary relied upon in developing the rule, environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment; and

“(2) for those scientific products receiving Federal funds, also make publicly available—

“(A) the raw data used for the federally funded scientific product; and

“(B) background information of the authors of the scientific study.

“(C) COMPLIANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), failure to comply with the publication requirements of subsection (b)—

“(A) with respect to draft or supplemental rules, environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, or economic assessments shall extend by 1 day the notice and comment period for each day of non-compliance; or

“(B) with respect to final or emergency rules, shall delay the effective date of the final rule by 60 days plus an additional day for each day of noncompliance.

“(2) WITHDRAWAL.—If the Secretary fails to comply with the publication requirements of subsection (b) for more than 180 days after the date of publication of any rule, or any related environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment, under this Act, the Secretary shall withdraw the rule, environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 529 the following:

“Sec. 530. Publication of scientific products for rules and related environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, and economic assessments.”

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER FEDERAL LAWS.—Section 702 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1292) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsection (e) and (f), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER FEDERAL LAWS.—Nothing in this Act authorizes the Secretary to take any action by rule, interpretive rule, policy, regulation, notice, or order that duplicates any action taken under an Act referred to in subsection (a) (including regulations and rules).

“(d) DEFERENCE TO IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES AND STATE AUTHORITIES.—In carrying out this Act (including rules, interpretive rules, policies, regulations, notices, or orders), the Secretary—

“(1) shall defer to the determinations of an agency or State authority implementing an Act referred to in subsection (a) with respect to any agency action under the jurisdiction of the agency or State authority, as applicable; and

“(2) shall not make any determination regarding any agency action subject to an Act referred to in subsection (a).”

**SA 3140.** Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which

was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part IV of subtitle A of title III, add the following:

**SEC. 30. POLICIES RELATING TO BIOMASS ENERGY.**

To support the key role that forests in the United States can play in addressing the energy needs of the United States, the Secretary, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall jointly—

(1) ensure that Federal policy relating to forest bioenergy—

(A) is consistent across all Federal departments and agencies; and

(B) recognizes the full benefits of the use of forest biomass for energy, conservation, and responsible forest management; and

(2) establish clear and simple policies for the use of biomass as an energy solution, including policies that—

(A) reflect the carbon-neutrality of forest bioenergy;

(B) recognize biomass as a renewable energy source;

(C) encourage private investment throughout the biomass supply chain, including in—

(i) working forests;

(ii) harvesting operations;

(iii) forest improvement operations;

(iv) bioenergy;

(v) wood products; and

(vi) paper manufacturing;

(D) encourage forest management to improve forest health; and

(E) recognize State initiatives to use biomass.

**SA 3141.** Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, add the following:

**Subtitle I—Wind Energy**

**SEC. 3801. INTERAGENCY RAPID RESPONSE TEAM FOR WIND ENERGY.**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an interagency rapid response team, to be known as the “Interagency Rapid Response Team for Wind Energy” (referred to in this section as the “Team”), to expedite and improve the permitting process for wind generation on Federal land and non-Federal land.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Team shall be comprised of representatives from—

(1) the Department;

(2) the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

(3) the Department of the Interior;

(4) the Department of Defense;

(5) the Department of Agriculture;

(6) the Department of Commerce;

(7) the Environmental Protection Agency;

(8) the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation;

(9) the Federal Aviation Administration; and

(10) the Council on Environmental Quality.

(c) DUTIES.—The Team shall—

(1) establish clear timelines for the review of projects;

(2) facilitate coordination and unified environmental documentation among wind project applicants, Federal agencies, States, and Indian tribes involved in the siting and permitting processes; and

(3) regularly notify all participating members of the Team involved in any specific permit of—

(A) any outstanding agency action that is required with respect to the permit; and

(B) any approval or required comment that has exceeded statutory or agency timelines for completion, including an identification of any Federal agency, department, or field office that has not met the applicable timeline.

(d) POINT OF CONTACT.—The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall provide a unified point of contact for—

(1) resolving interagency or intraagency issues or delays with respect to wind permitting; and

(2) receiving and resolving complaints from parties with outstanding or in-process applications relating to wind permitting.

**SA 3142.** Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 253, strike lines 21 through 25 and insert the following:

Defense;

“(10) to identify and support opportunities to pair hydrokinetic generation with existing hydroelectric dam facilities operated by the Corps of Engineers; and

“(11) to support in-water technology development with international partners using existing cooperative procedures (including memoranda of understanding)—

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING**

I, Senator CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, intend to object to proceeding to S. 2415, a bill to implement integrity measures to strengthen the EB-5 Regional Center Program in order to promote and reform foreign capital investment and job creation in American communities; dated January 28, 2016.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Helping Americans Prepared for Retirement: Increasing Access, Participation and Coverage in Retirement Savings Plans.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,  
AND PENSIONS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Generic Drug User Fee Amendments: Accelerating Patient Access to Generic Drugs."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 10 a.m. in room SR-428A of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Reauthorization of the SBIR/STTR Programs—The Importance of Small Business Innovation to National and Economic Security."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "The Department of Health and Human Services' Placement of Migrant Children: Vulnerabilities to Human Trafficking."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Molly Baier, a fellow in my office, be granted privileges of the floor for the remainder of the Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar Nos. 449 through 457 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. Anthony J. Rock

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. James H. Dienst

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. John J. Degoes

Col. Mark A. Koeniger

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

*To be major general*

Brig. Gen. James R. Barkley

Brig. Gen. Kimberly A. Crider

Brig. Gen. David B. O'Brien

Brig. Gen. Eric S. Overturf

Brig. Gen. Walter J. Sams

Brig. Gen. John P. Stokes

Brig. Gen. Curtis L. Williams

Brig. Gen. Edward P. Yarish

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Paige P. Hunter

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Thomas J. Owens, II

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Robert G. Michnowicz

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Jeffrey C. Coggin

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Kevin C. Wulforst

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S  
DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1010 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning PETER L. REYNOLDS, and ending CHRISTOPHER P. CALDER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1011 AIR FORCE nomination of Jeremy W. Cannon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1012 AIR FORCE nomination of Ted W. Lieu, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1013 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning JODENE M. ALEXANDER, and ending DEBORAH J. ROBINSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1014 AIR FORCE nominations (5) beginning JOHN LOUIS ARENDALE, II, and ending MINH-TRI BA TRINH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1015 AIR FORCE nominations (13) beginning BONNIE JOY BOSLER, and ending LIANE L. WEINBERGER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1016 AIR FORCE nominations (14) beginning ARDEN B. ANDERSEN, and ending MARK A. ZELKOVIC, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1017 AIR FORCE nomination of Todd Andrew Luce, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1018 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning LEBANE S. HALL, and ending DAVID F. PENDLETON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1019 AIR FORCE nominations (3) beginning WILLIAM CHARLES DUNLAP, and ending ROBERT K. MCGHEE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1020 AIR FORCE nominations (9) beginning DAWN D. BELLACK, and ending ANDREW J. TURNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1021 AIR FORCE nominations (109) beginning KATHERINE E. AASEN, and ending CHRISTOPHER M. ZIDEK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1022 AIR FORCE nominations (6) beginning BRYAN M. BARROQUEIRO, and ending JOSEPH MANNINO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.

PN1023 AIR FORCE nomination of Bryan M. Davis, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2015.