

House Appropriations Committee

Chairman Hal Rogers

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

FY 2015 Omnibus – Energy and Water Appropriations

Bill targets funding toward critical national security activities and infrastructure investments to support economic growth

The Energy and Water Subcommittee portion of the Omnibus targets funding to nuclear weapons activities that are critical to national security, and makes much needed investments in important infrastructure programs. The legislation totals \$34.2 billion – an increase of \$142 million above the enacted 2014 level.

National Security – The bill provides a total of \$11.4 billion for the National Nuclear Security Administration, which maintains the safety, security, and readiness of the nation’s nuclear weapons stockpile. This is \$200 million above the fiscal year 2014 level.

Within this funding, \$8.2 billion is targeted to Weapons Activities, an increase of \$387 million (4.9%) above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This critical national defense funding will uphold the nation’s nuclear deterrence posture, and modernize aging weapons systems and infrastructure. This funding includes \$643 million to extend the life of the B61 nuclear bomb, and \$9.4 million to begin work to extend the life span of the cruise missile warhead.

Also within this funding is \$1.2 billion for Naval Reactors – an increase of \$144 million (13%) above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level – to support the Ohio-replacement ballistic missile submarine and to address aging nuclear infrastructure. The bill also continues funding for important activities to secure nuclear materials around the world, but does not include any funding for new projects in Russia.

Army Corps of Engineers – The Army Corps of Engineers is funded at \$5.5 billion, an increase of \$15 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level.

The bill prioritizes funding for navigation and flood control to advance public safety, boost U.S. export ability, create jobs, and help ensure our waterways stay open for business. Within the total, the bill provides:

- \$2.3 billion for navigation projects and studies;
- \$1.1 billion from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, for harbor maintenance, construction, and operations activities;
- \$281 million – including the full amount of anticipated revenues into the Inland Waterways Trust Fund – for construction and rehabilitation of the nation’s inland waterways infrastructure; and

- \$1.6 billion for public health and flood and storm damage reduction activities.

Energy Programs – The bill provides \$10.2 billion for energy programs within the Department of Energy (DOE) – a \$22 million increase above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level – to support programs that encourage U.S. economic competitiveness and help advance the nation’s goal of an “all-of-the-above” solution to energy independence. This includes:

- \$571 million for research and development to advance coal, natural gas, oil, and other fossil energy technologies – an increase of \$8.9 million (1.5%) above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$95.5 million (20%) above the President’s request – to help the country make better use of our domestic resources and reduce energy costs;
- \$914 million for nuclear energy research and development, an increase of \$24 million (2.7%) above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$50 million (5.8%) above the President’s request, to further the next generation of nuclear power while ensuring the safety and longevity of our current plants;
- \$1.9 billion for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs – placing priority on advanced manufacturing and weatherization assistance. This funding is targeted to effective and proven programs, while holding the line on spending in other areas. This total is \$380 million – or 16% – below the President’s request.

Science Research – The bill includes \$5.1 billion for science research, the same as the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. This funding will help strengthen innovation and future American competitiveness by supporting basic energy research, development of high-performance computing systems, and research into the next generation of clean energy sources.

The bill also rejects cuts proposed by the President to the domestic fusion energy program – funding the program at \$318 million. This will help lay the groundwork for more efficient and practical domestic energy solutions, help reduce the nation’s dependence on foreign oil, and promote future growth of American businesses and industries.

Department of the Interior – The legislation contains \$1.1 billion – \$27 million above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level – for the Department of the Interior, including the Bureau of Reclamation. This funding will help manage, develop, and protect the water resources of Western states.

Policy Items – The legislation includes several significant policy provisions to support economic growth and to rein in Administration overreach. These include:

- Provisions restricting the application of the Clean Water Act in certain agricultural areas, including farm ponds and irrigation ditches;
- A provision prohibiting funding for the Army Corps to change the definition of “fill material,” which could have harmful effects on many U.S. industries;
- A provision prohibiting funding for the Administration’s onerous “light bulb” standard, which prevents incandescent bulbs from being manufactured or sold, despite a continued public desire for these products; and

- A continuation of prior-year funding for Yucca Mountain to maintain its viability for future use and to finish its third safety evaluation report.

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