

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

## **H. J. RES. 137**

To express the sense of Congress that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should refrain from further processing restructuring proceedings pursuant to Order No. 636 until 60 days after the submission to Congress of the General Accounting Office's study of the economic impacts of the order on residential, commercial, and other end-users of natural gas, and for other purposes.

---

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 1993

Mr. COOPER (for himself, Mr. TANNER, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. McCLOSKEY, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. STUDDS, Mr. FINGERHUT, and Ms. KAPTUR) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

---

## **JOINT RESOLUTION**

To express the sense of Congress that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should refrain from further processing restructuring proceedings pursuant to Order No. 636 until 60 days after the submission to Congress of the General Accounting Office's study of the economic impacts of the order on residential, commercial, and other end-users of natural gas, and for other purposes.

Whereas Congress has declared that a purpose of the Department of Energy is to promote the continued good health of the Nation's small business firms, public utility districts, municipal utilities, and private cooperatives;

Whereas residential and commercial consumers, hospitals, schools, and others that have been identified by Congress as high-priority users of natural gas depend on an affordable and reliable supply of natural gas;

Whereas the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on April 8, 1992, adopted new regulations in Order No. 636;

Whereas Order No. 636 forces significant changes in the structure of the various components of the natural gas industry that will significantly increase the cost of natural gas and have other adverse effects on residential, commercial, and other high-priority users;

Whereas Order No. 636 will make residential, commercial, and other high-priority users pay all fixed costs of the national pipeline system, instead of only their reasonable share;

Whereas residential consumers will not be benefited by the cost increases, but are forced by the order to pay all transition costs created by the industry restructuring;

Whereas the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has failed to conduct an analysis of the economic impact of Order No. 636 on the various classes of natural gas end-users, including higher fixed costs, higher wellhead costs, and new transition costs; and

Whereas the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has not conducted an analysis of the economic impact of Order No. 636 on the various geographic regions of the country,

and is moving with undue haste to implement Order No. 636: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2       *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That it is the sense of Congress that the Federal Energy  
4       Regulatory Commission should refrain from further proc-  
5       essing restructuring proceedings pursuant to Order No.  
6       636 until 60 days after the submission to Congress of the  
7       study of the General Accounting Office of the economic  
8       impacts of the order on residential, commercial, and other  
9       end-users of natural gas.

○