

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1510

To prohibit the Department of Energy from acting as the agency of implementation, with respect to nondefense Department of Energy laboratories, for certain environmental, safety, and health regulations, and to require reduction in personnel at such laboratories.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 7, 1995

Mr. ROEMER (for himself, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. JACOBS, and Mr. KLUG)
introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science

A BILL

To prohibit the Department of Energy from acting as the agency of implementation, with respect to nondefense Department of Energy laboratories, for certain environmental, safety, and health regulations, and to require reduction in personnel at such laboratories.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Department of Energy
5 Laboratories Efficiency Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF SELF-REGULATION.**

2 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the De-
3 partment of Energy shall not be the agency of implemen-
4 tation, with respect to departmental laboratories, other
5 than departmental defense laboratories, of Federal, State,
6 and local environmental, safety, and health rules, regula-
7 tions, orders, and standards.

8 **SEC. 3. PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS.**

9 (a) REQUIREMENTS.—The aggregate number of indi-
10 viduals employed at all government-owned, contractor-op-
11 erated departmental laboratories, other than departmental
12 defense laboratories, shall be reduced, within 10 years
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, by at least
14 one-third from the number so employed as of such date
15 of enactment. At least 1 percent of such reduction shall
16 be accomplished within 1 year, at least 3 percent within
17 2 years, at least 6 percent within 3 years, at least 10 per-
18 cent within 4 years, and at least 15 percent within 5 years.

19 (b) OBJECTIVES.—The Secretary of Energy shall en-
20 sure that the personnel reductions required by subsection
21 (a) are made consistent with, to the extent feasible, the
22 following objectives:

23 (1) Termination of departmental laboratory re-
24 search and development facilities that are not the
25 most advanced and the most relevant to the pro-

1 grammatic objectives of the Department, when com-
2 pared with other facilities in the United States.

3 (2) Termination of facilities that provide re-
4 search opportunities duplicating those afforded by
5 other facilities in the United States, or in foreign
6 countries when United States scientists are provided
7 access to such facilities to the extent necessary to
8 accomplish the programmatic objectives of the De-
9 partment.

10 (3) Relocation and consolidation of depart-
11 mental laboratory research and development activi-
12 ties, consistent with the programmatic objectives of
13 the Department, within laboratories with major fa-
14 cilities or demonstrable concentrations of expertise
15 appropriate for performing such research and devel-
16 opment activities.

17 (4) Reduction of management inefficiencies
18 within the Department and the departmental labora-
19 tories.

20 (5) Reduction of physical infrastructure needs.

21 (6) Utilization of other resources for performing
22 Department of Energy funded research and develop-
23 ment activities, including universities, industrial lab-
24 oratories, and others.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

2 (a) INITIAL REPORT.—Within 1 year after the date
3 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall
4 transmit a report to the Congress that—

5 (1) identifies the extent to which Department of
6 Energy and departmental laboratory staffs have
7 been reduced as a result of the implementation of
8 section 2 of this Act; and

9 (2) explains the extent to which reductions re-
10 quired by section 3(a) have been made consistent
11 with the objectives set forth in section 3(b).

12 (b) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary of Energy
13 shall transmit to the Congress, along with each of the
14 President’s annual budget submissions occurring—

15 (1) after the report under subsection (a) is
16 transmitted; and

17 (2) before the full personnel reduction require-
18 ment under section 3 is accomplished,

19 a report containing the explanation described in subsection
20 (a)(2) of this section.

21 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

22 For purposes of this Act—

23 (1) the term “departmental laboratory” means
24 a Federal laboratory, or any other laboratory or fa-
25 cility designated by the Secretary of Energy, oper-
26 ated by or on behalf of the Department of Energy;

1 (2) the term “departmental defense labora-
2 tories” means the Lawrence Livermore National
3 Laboratory, the Los Alamos National Laboratory,
4 and the Sandia National Laboratories;

5 (3) the term “Federal laboratory” has the
6 meaning given the term “laboratory” in section
7 12(d)(2) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Inno-
8 vation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a(d)(2)); and

9 (4) the term “programmatic objectives of the
10 Department” means the goals and milestones of the
11 Department of Energy, as set forth in departmental
12 strategic planning documents and the President’s
13 annual budget requests.

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