

The Managers recognize that the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA) is presently responsible for prioritizing Council program measures and making recommendations to the Council on projects to be funded through BPA's annual fish and wildlife budget. The Managers understand that each year roughly four hundred proposals are submitted for review by CBFWA in order to receive funding from BPA's annual budget. CBFWA's advice is important. CBFWA members, however, are also the Federal and State fish and wildlife agencies and the tribes who financially benefit from the program. The Managers believe that independent scientific review would remove any suggestion of conflict of interest in prioritizing programs, and add an important element of independent scientific review to the Council decision making process.

The bill language seeks to ensure that Northwest ratepayer dollars are being spent in a cost effective and objective manner. The bill language requires that the Council establish, from a list submitted by NAS, Scientific Peer Review Groups to assist the Panel in making its recommendations to the Council. Projects shall be reviewed based upon the following criteria: projects benefit fish and wildlife in the region; have a clearly defined objective and outcome; and are based on sound science principles.

After review of the projects by the Panel and Peer Review Groups, the Panel shall submit its recommendations on project priorities to the Council for consideration. The Council shall make the Panel's recommendations available to the public for review.

The Council shall review recommendations of the Panel, the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, and others, in making its final recommendations to BPA of projects to be funded through BPA's annual fish and wildlife budget. If the Council does not follow the advice of the Panel, it is to explain in writing the basis for its decision. The Managers understand that ocean conditions are a contributing factor to the health of fish and wildlife populations in the region, and have directed the Council to consider the impacts of ocean conditions in making its recommendations to BPA to fund projects. Bill language also directs the Council to determine whether project recommendations employ cost effective measures to achieve its objectives. The bill language expressly states the Council, after review of Panel and other recommendations, has the authority to make final recommendations to BPA on project(s) to be funded through BPA's annual fish and wildlife budget.

The provision shall go into effect upon the date of enactment, and the Managers intend that the provision be used to start the planning process for the expenditure of BPA's FY98 fish and wildlife budget. This provision shall expire on September 30, 2000.

SEC. 513.—The conference agreement includes language renaming Cooper Lake in Texas as the "Jim Chapman Lake."

SEC. 514.—The conference agreement includes language naming a dam on the Rogue River in Jackson County, Oregon, as the "William L. Jess Dam and Intake Structure."

SEC. 515.—The conference agreement includes language designating a portion of the Red River in Louisiana as the "J. Bennett Johnston Waterway."

GENERAL PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

The conference agreement deletes language proposed by the House prohibiting the Tennessee Valley Authority from imposing a performance deposit in connection with permits issued for docks and other residential shoreline alternations.

The conference agreement deletes language proposed by the Senate pertaining to

the authority of the State of Oregon to enter into memorandum of understanding with the State of Washington to address issues regarding the Hanford Reservation.

The conference agreement deletes language proposed by the Senate which gives the State of Oregon an opportunity to review and comment on certain remedial actions at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in the State of Washington.

The conference agreement deletes language contained in sections 507 and 508 of the Senate bill which would have deferred principal and interest payments for one year on the water service contracts for the Nueces River and Canadian River projects in Texas.

The conference agreement deletes language proposed by the Senate, the text of S. 534, to provide authority for states to limit the interstate transportation of municipal solid waste and to provide for state and local government control of the movement of municipal solid waste and recyclable material.

The conference agreement deletes language proposed by the Senate expressing the sense of the Senate regarding a United States semiconductor trade agreement with Japan.

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 1997 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 1996 amount, the 1997 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 1997 follow:

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	\$19,935,654,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	20,648,952,000
House bill, fiscal year 1997	19,838,990,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1997	20,736,858,700
Conference agreement, fiscal year 1997	20,401,108,000
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996 ...	+465,454,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	-247,844,000
House bill, fiscal year 1997	+562,118,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1997	-335,750,700

JOHN T. MYERS,
HAROLD ROGERS,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
FRANK RIGGS,
RODNEY P.

FRELINGHUYSEN,
JIM BUNN,
MIKE PARKER,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
TOM BEVILL,
VIC FAZIO,
JIM CHAPMAN,
PETER J. VISLOSKEY,

Managers on the Part of the House.

PETE V. DOMENICI,
MARK O. HATFIELD,
THAD COCHRAN,
SLADE GORTON,
MITCH MCCONNELL,
ROBERT F. BENNETT,
CONRAD BURNS,
J. BENNETT JOHNSTON,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
FRITZ HOLLINGS,
HARRY REID,
J. ROBERT KERREY,
PATTY MURRAY,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

MAKING IN ORDER TODAY OR ANY DAY THEREAFTER CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time on Thursday, September 12, 1996, or any day thereafter to consider a conference report to accompany the bill, H.R. 3816; that all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration be waived, and that the conference report be considered as read when called up.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND KENNETH P. ROGERS

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, with a great deal of pleasure today I would like to welcome to our body Pastor Ken Rogers of the Lewisville Bible Church, where my wife and I worship.

Ken is a native of New Jersey. He is a graduate of the Dallas Theological Seminary. He has pastored churches in Nebraska and in New York, and now resides in Lewisville, TX, with his wife Lou Ann and his two sons, Dan and Nate.

It is a very special thing for me to see him open our session today in prayer, and I would like to just share a thought with you that Ken shares with me often as he reminds me of a quote from George Washington, our Founding Father, where George Washington said, and I quote, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

COMMONSENSE GOVERNMENT REFORM NEEDED

(Mr. GINGRICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I brought in an official congressional ice bucket, because I thought it was the perfect symbol of what we are trying to do and how it sometimes gets misrepresented.

When we became a majority for the first time in 40 years, we were trying, frankly, to pinch a few pennies to save some money and to be able to provide tax relief. As we looked around at things that we might not need to be doing, we discovered that ice buckets were being delivered every morning to