

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 1219

To authorize certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Inc.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 9, 2005

Mr. BURNS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To authorize certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Inc.

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. TEMPORARY CONVEYANCE OF WATER RIGHTS**

4                   **TO DRY PRAIRIE RURAL WATER ASSOCIA-**  
5                   **TION, INC.**

6       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes  
7 of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana (referred  
8 to in this section as the “Tribes”) may, with the approval

1 of the Secretary, enter into a lease or other temporary con-  
2 veyance of water rights recognized under the Fort Peck-  
3 Montana Compact (Montana Code Annotated 85–20–201)  
4 with the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Incor-  
5 porated (or any successor non-Federal entity) for the pur-  
6 pose of meeting the water needs of that association, in  
7 accordance with section 5 of the Fort Peck Reservation  
8 Rural Water System Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–382;  
9 114 Stat. 1454).

10 (b) CONDITIONS OF LEASE.—With respect to a lease  
11 or other temporary conveyance described in subsection  
12 (a)—

13 (1) the term of the lease or conveyance shall  
14 not exceed 100 years; and

15 (2)(A) the lease or conveyance may be approved  
16 by the Secretary without monetary compensation to  
17 the Tribes; and

18 (B) the Secretary shall not be subject to liabil-  
19 ity for any claim relating to any compensation or  
20 consideration received by the Tribes under the lease  
21 or conveyance.

22 (c) NO PERMANENT ALIENATION OF WATER.—Noth-  
23 ing in this section authorizes a permanent alienation of  
24 any water by the Tribes.

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