

Madam Speaker, I have no additional requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I urge the immediate passage of 4377.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4377.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TYGART DAM PROJECT HYDROELECTRIC LICENSE EXTENSION BILL

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4417) to provide for the reinstatement of a license for a certain Federal Energy Regulatory project.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4417

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE FOR FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to project numbered 7307 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Commission shall, upon the request of the licensee for the project, in accordance with that section (including the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the procedures established under that section), extend the time required for commencement of construction of the project until December 31, 2007.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) shall apply to the project upon the expiration of any extension, issued by the Commission under section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806), of the time required for commencement of construction of the project.

(c) REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSE.—If a license of the Commission for the project expires before the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall—

(1) reinstate the license effective as of the date of the expiration of the license; and

(2) extend the time required for commencement of construction of the project until December 31, 2007.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BOUCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 4417, the Tygart Dam Project Hydroelectric License Extension Bill, extends the time in the hydroelectric license to start construction on the project until December 31, 2007. This is another project that has experienced delays. In this case, unfavorable market conditions delayed the start of the project. Today, those conditions have been resolved and the project is ready to begin. The project will be built at an existing dam, thus minimizing impacts. It is anticipated that the project will provide a substantial economic boost to the city of Grafton, West Virginia, as well as valuable hydroelectric power, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4417, legislation which would require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend, upon the licensee's request and subject to compliance with commission procedures, the deadline for the commencement of construction of the proposed Tygart Dam Hydroelectric Project in West Virginia. That extension in this bill would be for a period of 1 year.

The project was originally licensed in 1989, but has not begun construction due to a lack of utility contracts in order to make the project financially viable. Those dynamics have now changed and the contractor is actively negotiating for the purchase of electricity to be produced by the facility.

The project enjoys strong local support in the community in West Virginia in which it will be located. The bill was also approved by the Energy and Commerce Committee by voice vote and is noncontroversial, and I urge approval of the legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I also yield back the balance of my time, and I urge the immediate passage of H.R. 4417.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4417.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SWIFT CREEK HYDROELECTRIC LICENSE EXTENSION BILL

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 244) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Wyoming.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 244

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT.

Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 1651, the Commission may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the Commission's procedures under that section, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of the project for 3 consecutive 2-year periods from the date of the expiration of the extension originally issued by the Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BOUCHER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on the Senate bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 244, the Swift Creek Hydroelectric License Extension Bill, authorizing the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the time specified in the project license to begin construction of the Swift Creek Hydroelectric Project for three 2-year periods, a total of 6 years.

The Swift Creek Project is a 1.5 megawatt project in Wyoming. This bill has passed the Senate with unanimous consent, and passage of the bill today will send this bill directly to the President's desk and allow the further development of clean renewable hydroelectric power. I urge my colleagues to support S. 244.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of this legislation which would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the commencement of construction deadline for the Swift Creek Hydroelectric Project in Wyoming for three 2-year periods. The license was originally issued in 1997, and the bill before us would provide a routine extension of the commencement of construction deadline.

The legislation is noncontroversial and was approved by voice vote of the