

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 523

To require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public land located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the Wells Hydroelectric Project of Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington, to the utility district.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 17, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public land located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the Wells Hydroelectric Project of Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington, to the utility district.

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 “Douglas County,
5 Washington, PUD Conveyance Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) PUBLIC LAND.—The term “public land”
2 means the approximately 622 acres of Federal land
3 managed by the Bureau of Land Management and
4 identified for conveyance on the map prepared by
5 the Bureau of Land Management entitled “Douglas
6 County Public Utility District Proposal” and dated
7 March 2, 2006.

8 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

10 (3) PUD.—The term “PUD” means the Public
11 Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Wash-
12 ington.

13 **SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE OF PUBLIC LAND, WELLS HYDRO-**
14 **ELECTRIC PROJECT, PUBLIC UTILITY DIS-**
15 **TRICT NO. 1 OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASH-**
16 **INGTON.**

17 (a) CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding the
18 land use planning requirements of sections 202 and 203
19 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
20 (43 U.S.C. 1712, 1713), and notwithstanding section 24
21 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 818) and Federal
22 Power Order for Project 2149, and subject to valid exist-
23 ing rights, if not later than 45 days after the date of com-
24 pletion of the appraisal required under subsection (b), the
25 Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Wash-

1 ington, submits to the Secretary of the Interior an offer
2 to acquire the public land for the appraised value, the Sec-
3 retary shall convey, not later than 30 days after the date
4 of the offer, to the PUD all right, title, and interest of
5 the United States in and to the public land.

6 (b) APPRAISAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
7 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete
8 an appraisal of the public land. The appraisal shall be con-
9 ducted in accordance with the “Uniform Appraisal Stand-
10 ards for Federal Land Acquisitions” and the “Uniform
11 Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice”.

12 (c) PAYMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date
13 on which the public land is conveyed under this section,
14 the PUD shall pay to the Secretary an amount equal to
15 the appraised value of the public land as determined under
16 subsection (b).

17 (d) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—As soon as
18 practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the
19 Secretary shall finalize legal descriptions of the public land
20 to be conveyed under this section. The Secretary may cor-
21 rect any minor errors in the map referred to in section
22 2 or in the legal descriptions. The map and legal descrip-
23 tions shall be on file and available for public inspection
24 in appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

1 (e) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—As a condition of con-
2 veyance, any costs related to the conveyance under this
3 section shall be paid by the PUD.

4 (f) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—The Secretary shall
5 deposit the proceeds from the sale in the working capital
6 fund of the Bureau of Land Management established by
7 section 306 of the Federal Land Policy and Management
8 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1736).

9 **SEC. 4. SEGREGATION OF LANDS.**

10 (a) WITHDRAWAL.—Except as provided in section
11 3(a), effective immediately upon enactment of this Act,
12 and subject to valid existing rights, the public land is with-
13 drawn from—

14 (1) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal
15 under the public land laws, and all amendments
16 thereto;

17 (2) location, entry, and patenting under the
18 mining laws, and all amendments thereto; and

19 (3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral
20 materials, and geothermal leasing laws, and all
21 amendments thereto.

22 (b) DURATION.—This section expires two years after
23 the date of enactment of this Act or on the date of the

- 1 completion of the conveyance under section 3, whichever
- 2 is earlier.

○