H. R. 2019

To provide for a smart water resource management pilot program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2019

Mr. McNerney (for himself and Mr. Kinzinger) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To provide for a smart water resource management pilot program.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Smart Energy and Water Efficiency Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means—

(A) a utility;
(B) a municipality;

(C) a water district; and

(D) any other authority that provides water, wastewater, or water reuse services.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(3) SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PILOT PROGRAM.—The term “smart energy and water efficiency pilot program” or “pilot program” means the pilot program established under subsection (b).

(b) SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a smart energy and water efficiency management pilot program in accordance with this section.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the smart energy and water efficiency pilot program is to award grants to eligible entities to demonstrate advanced and innovative technology-based solutions that will—

(A) increase and improve the energy efficiency of water, wastewater, and water reuse systems to help communities across the United
States make significant progress in conserving water, saving energy, and reducing costs;

(B) support the implementation of innovative processes and the installation of advanced automated systems that provide real-time data on energy and water; and

(C) improve energy and water conservation, water quality, and predictive maintenance of energy and water systems, through the use of internet-connected technologies, including sensors, intelligent gateways, and security embedded in hardware.

(3) PROJECT SELECTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make competitive, merit-reviewed grants under the pilot program to not less than 3, but not more than 5, eligible entities.

(B) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting an eligible entity to receive a grant under the pilot program, the Secretary shall consider—

(i) energy and cost savings anticipated to result from the project;

(ii) the innovative nature, commercial viability, and reliability of the technology to be used;
(iii) the degree to which the project integrates next-generation sensors, software, hardware, analytics, and management tools;

(iv) the anticipated cost-effectiveness of the pilot project in terms of energy efficiency savings, water savings or reuse, and infrastructure costs averted;

(v) whether the technology can be deployed in a variety of geographic regions and the degree to which the technology can be implemented on a smaller or larger scale, including whether the technology can be implemented by each type of eligible entity;

(vi) whether the technology has been successfully deployed elsewhere;

(vii) whether the technology is sourced from a manufacturer based in the United States; and

(viii) whether the project will be completed in 5 years or less.

(C) APPLICATIONS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), an eligible entity seeking a grant
under the pilot program shall submit to
the Secretary an application at such time,
in such manner, and containing such infor-
mation as the Secretary determines to be
necessary.

(ii) CONTENTS.—An application under
clause (i) shall, at a minimum, include—

(I) a description of the project;

(II) a description of the tech-
nology to be used in the project;

(III) the anticipated results, in-
cluding energy and water savings, of
the project;

(IV) a comprehensive budget for
the project; and

(V) the number of households or
customers to be served by the project.

(4) ADMINISTRATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 300
days after the date of enactment of this Act,
the Secretary shall select grant recipients under
this section.

(B) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall
annually for 5 years carry out an evaluation of
each project for which a grant is provided under this section that—

(i) evaluates the progress and impact of the project; and

(ii) assesses the degree to which the project is meeting the goals of the pilot program.

(C) **Technical and Policy Assistance.**—On the request of a grant recipient, the Secretary shall provide technical and policy assistance to the grant recipient to carry out the project.

(D) **Best Practices.**—The Secretary shall make available to the public—

(i) a copy of each evaluation carried out under subparagraph (B); and

(ii) a description of any best practices identified by the Secretary as a result of those evaluations.

(E) **Report to Congress.**—Not later than 5 years after the establishment of the program, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing the results of each evaluation carried out under subparagraph (B).
(c) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated $15,000,000 to carry out this section, to remain available until expended.