

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2818

To require the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations to ban the venting and flaring of gas in oil and gas production operations in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 7, 2019

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

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations to ban the venting and flaring of gas in oil and gas production operations in the United States, and for other purposes.

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 “Fuel Loss Abatement
5 and Royalty Enhancement Act” or the “FLARE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REGULATIONS TO BAN VENTING AND FLARING OF**
2 **GAS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior
5 shall issue regulations under this Act—

6 (1) to ban the venting and flaring of gas in oil
7 and gas production operations on Federal land on-
8 shore and offshore in the United States, with the ex-
9 ception of—

10 (A) de minimis venting and flaring; and

11 (B) venting and flaring that the Secretary
12 determines is required for safety; and

13 (2) to promote the capture and beneficial use or
14 reinjection of gas in the operations referred to in
15 paragraph (1).

16 (b) ROYALTIES.—A regulation issued under this sec-
17 tion shall include provisions that treat gas that is flared
18 or vented in operations under a lease under this Act as
19 production for which royalty is required to be paid to the
20 United States.

21 **SEC. 3. ASSESSMENT OF VENTING AND FLARING OF GAS IN**
22 **PRODUCTION OPERATIONS IN UNITED**
23 **STATES.**

24 Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment
25 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
26 shall—

1 (1) assess the venting and flaring of gas in oil
2 and gas production operations on Federal land on-
3 shore and offshore in the United States; and

4 (2) submit to Congress a report on the venting
5 and flaring of gas in oil and gas production oper-
6 ations on Federal land onshore and offshore in the
7 United States, including an estimate of the volume
8 of gas that is vented or flared in such operations
9 each year.

10 **SEC. 4. REGULATIONS.**

11 The Secretary of the Interior shall issue regulations
12 that define the terms “vent”, “venting”, “flare”, and
13 “flaring” for purposes of this Act.

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