

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6530

To amend the Energy Act of 2020 to provide for energy parity, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Mr. LAMBORN (for himself and Mr. NEWHOUSE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Energy Act of 2020 to provide for energy parity, 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 “Energy Parity Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PARITY IN REDUCTIONS IN ROYALTY RATES AND**
6 **CAPACITY FEES.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3101 of the Energy Act
8 of 2020 (43 U.S.C. 3001) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting “, or the
2 production of oil or natural gas,” after “wind en-
3 ergy”; and

4 (2) in paragraph (4)—

5 (A) strike “that” and insert “that—”; and

6 (B) strike “uses wind, solar, or geothermal
7 energy to generate energy.” and insert the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(A) uses wind, solar, or geothermal en-
10 ergy to generate energy; or

11 “(B) produces oil or natural gas.”.

12 (b) INCREASING ECONOMIC CERTAINTY.—Section
13 3103 of the Energy Act of 2020 (43 U.S.C. 3003) is
14 amended—

15 (1) in subsection (a)—

16 (A) by inserting “royalty rates,” after “ca-
17 pacity fees,”; and

18 (B) by striking “wind and solar” and in-
19 serting “oil, natural gas, wind, and solar”;

20 (2) in subsection (b)—

21 (A) by striking “and capacity fees, or
22 both,” and inserting “, capacity fees, and roy-
23 alty rates”;

24 (B) by striking “wind and solar” and in-
25 serting “oil, natural gas, wind, and solar”; and

1 (C) in paragraph (2)—

2 (i) by striking “or capacity fee” and
 3 inserting “, capacity fee, or royalty rate”;
 4 and

5 (ii) by striking “wind and solar” and
 6 inserting “oil, natural gas, wind, and
 7 solar”; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(c) PARITY IN REDUCTIONS IN ROYALTY RATES
 10 AND CAPACITY FEES.—If the Secretary reduces capacity
 11 fees for wind and solar authorizations pursuant to this
 12 section, the Secretary shall reduce royalty rates for oil and
 13 natural gas authorizations by the percentage that is equal
 14 to the percentage of the reduction in capacity fees.”.

15 **SEC. 3. PROPOSED RULE ON RIGHTS-OF-WAY, LEASING,**
 16 **AND OPERATIONS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY.**

17 Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment
 18 of this Act, the Bureau of Land Management shall reissue
 19 the proposed rule titled “Rights-of-Way, Leasing, and Op-
 20 erations for Renewable Energy” and published June 16,
 21 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 39726), to carry out the amendments
 22 made by section 2.

23 **SEC. 4. RATES UNDER THE MINERAL LEASING ACT.**

24 (a) ONSHORE OIL AND GAS ROYALTY RATES.—

(1) LEASE OF OIL AND GAS LAND.—Section 17 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)(1)(A)—

(i) by striking “not less than $16\frac{2}{3}$ ” and inserting “not less than 12.5”; and

(ii) by striking “or, in the case of a lease issued during the 10-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Act titled ‘An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 14’, $16\frac{2}{3}$ percent in amount or value of the production removed or sold from the lease”; and

(B) by striking “ $16\frac{2}{3}$ percent” each place it appears and inserting “12.5 percent”.

(2) CONDITIONS FOR REINSTATEMENT.—Section 31(e)(3) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 188(e)(3)) is amended by striking “20” inserting “ $16\frac{2}{3}$ ”.

(b) OIL AND GAS MINIMUM BID.—Section 17(b) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “\$10 per acre during the 10-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Act titled ‘An Act to provide for

1 reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res.
2 14’.” and inserting “\$2 per acre for a period of 2
3 years from the date of the enactment of the Federal
4 Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987.”;
5 and

6 (2) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking “\$10 per
7 acre” and inserting “\$2 per acre”.

8 (c) FOSSIL FUEL RENTAL RATES.—Section 17(d) of
9 the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226(d)) is amended
10 to read as follows:

11 “(d) All leases issued under this section, as amended
12 by the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act
13 of 1987, shall be conditioned upon payment by the lessee
14 of a rental of not less than \$1.50 per acre per year for
15 the first through fifth years of the lease and not less than
16 \$2 per acre per year for each year thereafter. A minimum
17 royalty in lieu of rental of not less than the rental which
18 otherwise would be required for that lease year shall be
19 payable at the expiration of each lease year beginning on
20 or after a discovery of oil or gas in paying quantities on
21 the lands leased.”.

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