

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3927

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to general permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2025

Mr. ROUZER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to general permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material, 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 “Nationwide Permitting  
5        Improvement Act”.

6        **SEC. 2. NATIONWIDE PERMITTING IMPROVEMENT.**

7        (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 404(e) of the Federal  
8        Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) is amend-  
9        ed—

1           (1) by striking “(e)(1) In carrying” and insert-  
2           ing the following:

3           “(e) GENERAL PERMITS ON STATE, REGIONAL, OR  
4           NATIONWIDE BASIS.—

5           “(1) PERMITS AUTHORIZED.—In carrying”;

6           (2) in paragraph (2)—

7           (A) by striking “(2) No general” and in-  
8           serting the following:

9           “(2) TERM.—No general”; and

10          (B) by striking “five years” and inserting  
11          “ten years”; and

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

13          “(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the en-  
14          vironmental effects of an activity under paragraph  
15          (1) or (2), the Secretary—

16                 “(A) shall consider only the effects of any  
17                 discharge of dredged or fill material resulting  
18                 from such activity; and

19                 “(B) shall consider any effects of a dis-  
20                 charge of dredged or fill material into less than  
21                 3 acres of navigable waters to be a minimal ad-  
22                 verse environmental effect.

23          “(4) NATIONWIDE PERMITS FOR LINEAR INFRA-  
24          STRUCTURE PROJECTS.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any  
2 other provision of this section, the Secretary  
3 shall maintain general permits on a nationwide  
4 basis for linear infrastructure projects that re-  
5 sult in a discharge of dredged or fill material  
6 into less than 3 acres of navigable waters for  
7 each single and complete project (as defined in  
8 section 330.2 of title 33, Code of Federal Regu-  
9 lations (as in effect on the date of enactment of  
10 this paragraph)).

11           “(B) DEFINITION OF LINEAR INFRASTRUC-  
12 TURE PROJECT.—In this paragraph, the term  
13 ‘linear infrastructure project’ means a project  
14 to carry out any activity required for the con-  
15 struction, expansion, maintenance, modification,  
16 or removal of infrastructure and associated fa-  
17 cilities for the transmission from a point of ori-  
18 gin to a terminal point of communications or  
19 electricity, or for the transportation from a  
20 point of origin to a terminal point of people,  
21 water, wastewater, carbon dioxide, or fuel or  
22 hydrocarbons (in the form of a liquid, liques-  
23 cent, gaseous, or slurry substance or supercrit-  
24 ical fluid), including oil and gas pipeline facili-  
25 ties.

1           “(5) REISSUANCE OF NATIONWIDE PERMITS.—

2           In determining whether to reissue a general permit  
3           issued under this subsection on a nationwide basis—

4                   “(A) no consultation with an applicable  
5                   State pursuant to section 6(a) of the Endan-  
6                   gered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1535(a))  
7                   is required;

8                   “(B) no consultation with a Federal agen-  
9                   cy pursuant to section 7(a)(2) of such Act (16  
10                   U.S.C. 1536(a)(2)) is required; and

11                   “(C) the requirements of section 102(2)(C)  
12                   of the National Environmental Policy Act of  
13                   1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)) shall be satisfied  
14                   by preparing an environmental assessment with  
15                   respect to such general permit.”.

16           (b) REGULATORY REVISIONS REQUIRED.—The Sec-  
17           retary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers,  
18           shall expeditiously revise the regulations applicable to car-  
19           rying out section 404(e) of the Federal Water Pollution  
20           Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) in order to streamline the  
21           processes for issuing general permits under such section  
22           to promote efficient and consistent implementation of such  
23           section.

24           (c) ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONWIDE PERMIT PRO-  
25           GRAM.—In carrying out section 404(e) of the Federal

1 Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), including  
2 in revising regulations under subsection (b) of this section,  
3 the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of  
4 Engineers, may not finalize or implement any modification  
5 to—

6           (1) general condition 15 (relating to single and  
7 complete projects), as included in the final rule titled  
8 “Reissuance and Modification of Nationwide Per-  
9 mits” and published on January 13, 2021, by the  
10 Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers (86  
11 Fed. Reg. 2868);

12           (2) the definition of the term “single and com-  
13 plete linear project”, as included in such final rule  
14 (86 Fed. Reg. 2877); or

15           (3) the definition of the term “single and com-  
16 plete project”, as included in section 330.2 of title  
17 33, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the  
18 date of enactment of this Act).

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