

a power sales contract has prevented construction. FERC has not expressed opposition to H.R. 2501, since it includes limitations on the extension. The legislation was introduced by our colleague, Representative RON LEWIS of Kentucky.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2501.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Colorado went into the details of why these bills have been brought to the floor today and why it is important that we move on them. In each case they are supported on a bipartisan basis, and I certainly support them because of the limitations set in the Federal Power Act. We basically have a tradition in this House on a bipartisan basis of moving these noncontroversial license extensions, and I am pleased that we are continuing that tradition today by taking up these bills. They were reported out without dissent, and I do support each of them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SCHAEFER] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2501, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EXTENSION OF FEDERAL POWER ACT DEADLINE FOR A PROJECT IN ILLINOIS

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2630) to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Illinois, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2630

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

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION DEADLINE FOR HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project unnumbered 3246, the Commission shall, at the request of the licensee for the project, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of that section and the Commission's procedures under that section, extend until October 15, 1997, the time period during which the licensee is required to commence construction of the project.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) shall take effect on the expiration of the exten-

sion, issued by the Commission under section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806), of the period required for commencement of construction of the project described in subsection (a).

(c) REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSE.—The Commission is authorized to reinstate the license for the project referred to in section (a), effective as of the date of its expiration or termination.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SCHAEFER] and the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] will each be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SCHAEFER].

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2630, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SCHAEFER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2630 as amended directs the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the deadline for construction of a hydroelectric project in Illinois. This 78-megawatt project would be located at an existing Corps of Engineers dam on the Mississippi River, in St. Charles County, MO, and Madison County, IL. There was a previous legislative extension of the construction period for this project in the 1991 highway bill. There is good reason to act on H.R. 2630 in a timely manner, since the construction deadline expired on October 15, 1995, and FERC has issued a notice of probable termination. This bill was introduced by our colleague, Representative JERRY COSTELLO of Illinois.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2630.

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Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would indicate support on our side of the aisle for the bill. The gentleman from Illinois [Mr. COSTELLO] was here before and asked, of course, that it be moved.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2630, legislation to extend the deadline for beginning construction on a hydroelectric project in southwestern Illinois. The Federal Power Act requires construction of a hydroelectric project to begin within 2 years after the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] issues a license. FERC can grant one additional extension, which it has already done. This bill will extend the time period in which construction must begin by 2 years.

This project is important to meet the energy and economic needs of southwestern Illinois. This region of my district has seen tremendous job loss and a shrinking tax base due to reduced job opportunities in manufacturing. Royalties from power sales will provide reve-

nue to the local city for capital improvements and other projects which will positively impact area employment.

The project has been planned in a way that addresses potential environmental concerns. The current proposal utilizes a turbine design, which will reduce the plant's impact on fish and other aquatic life. In fact, the fishways to be constructed upstream and downstream from the plant will actually improve fishing access for anglers.

I urge my colleagues to support this extension of time allowed to construct a hydroelectric power facility in southwestern Illinois.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAMP). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SCHAEFER] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2630, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EXTENSION OF FEDERAL POWER ACT DEADLINE FOR PROJECTS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2695) to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of certain hydroelectric projects in the State of Pennsylvania, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2695

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

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF DEADLINE.

(a) EXTENSION.—Notwithstanding the time limitations of section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806), upon the request of the licensee for the project concerned, and after reasonable notice, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall, in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of such section 13 and the Commission's procedures under such section, extend the time required for commencement of construction of each of the following projects until September 26, 1999:

(1) FERC Project No. 4474.

(2) FERC Project No. 7041.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect for the project upon the expiration of the extension (issued by the Commission under section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806)) of the period required for commencement of construction of the project concerned.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SCHAEFER] and the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] will each be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SCHAEFER].

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members