

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 219, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) and a Member opposed each will each control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL).

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Under the unanimous consent request, I assume, then, that I have offered it; and I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Texas (Mr. BARTON).

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. And I would simply say that the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking member on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, has offered an amendment that would authorize \$20 million for the administrator of General Services Administration to proceed with the Sun Wall design project, and the majority is prepared to accept it and work with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) to maintain it in conference with the Senate.

I urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time and continuing my comments, I rejoice that the gentleman has accepted it. I commend him for having done so.

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

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express my appreciation to the gentleman from Michigan for offering the amendment I had planned to and was designated to offer, and to the gentleman from Texas for accepting the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Oberstar-Norton amendment. The amendment authorizes the Administrator of the General Services Administration to install a photovoltaic solar energy system (photovoltaics) in accordance with the Sun Wall Design Project on the Forrester Building, the headquarters building of the Department of Energy located on Independence Avenue in Washington, D.C.

The Sun Wall is an engineering and architectural marvel; 24,750 square feet of power generating panels installed on the building's south facing wall. It is also visually exciting, reaching 300 feet wide and 130 feet high. In fact, the Sun Wall design was selected as the winning design in an national contest sponsored jointly by the Department of Energy and the National Renewable Fuels Laboratory. The project design was completed 5 years ago, in 2000. The project design is ready to go. All that is left to do is provide funding for the project so that construction of the Sun Wall can begin.

With ever rising oil prices and our country's ever-increasing dependence on oil, the time has come for the federal government to get serious about

alternative, renewable fuels. In fact, the time is long past overdue. The federal government is the Nation's largest energy consumer, a typical office building is estimated to spend one-third of its operating expenses on energy costs. Using alternative sources of energy will help us reduce these costs.

Photovoltaics are a proven, reliable source of energy. Simply put, photovoltaic systems convert solar energy into electricity. They not only reduce the consumption of fossil fuels, but they are highly efficient and have no moving parts, so the need for maintenance is virtually non-existent. Because they emit no harmful pollutants, they are a clean, environmentally-friendly energy source.

H.R. 6 does include provisions aimed at increasing energy efficiency in our public buildings. I am especially pleased to see in the bill section 205 (regarding the procurement and installation of photovoltaics in federal buildings generally), which I offered, and which was accepted, as an amendment during consideration of the energy bill last Congress.

Over 25 Federal buildings throughout the country, from Boston, Massachusetts to San Francisco, California, already use photovoltaics to great effect. We ought to add the national headquarters of the Department of Energy to that list.

The Sun Wall Project is an opportunity to have the Department of Energy Headquarters building in our Nation's capital—the building where energy policy is debated and refined—stand as a testament to the utility and promise of photovoltaics. In a city of monuments, the Sun Wall Project would be a monument to America's commitment to advanced technologies, alternative energy and a cleaner environment.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL).

The amendment was agreed to.

REQUEST TO OFFER AMENDMENT NO. 9

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk, and I ask unanimous consent to be able to go back to that amendment.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the right to object, and I will not object.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will have to offer his amendment in the full House. We cannot go back to the amendment.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the right to object.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair is not entertaining the motion because we cannot go back to the amendment.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman may inquire.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, since the gentleman from California is a member of the committee of jurisdiction and since he offered this in committee and it was made in order by the Committee on Rules to be offered, even though he was somewhat tardy in arriving, would a unanimous consent request, if made and not objected to, give him the right to offer the amendment now?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Such a request may only be entertained in the full House.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FLAKE) having assumed the chair, Mr. SIMPSON, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to ensure jobs for our future with secure, affordable, and reliable energy, had come to no resolution thereon.

MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME WAXMAN AMENDMENT NO. 9 DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Waxman amendment No. 9 be allowed to be offered at any time to H.R. 6.

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

There was no objection.

ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 219 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 6.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 6) to ensure jobs for our future with secure, affordable, and reliable energy, with Mr. SIMPSON (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 10 printed in House Report 109-49 offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. WAXMAN

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows: