

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1607

To clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2023

Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. STANTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, 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. LAND WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) AGREEMENT.—The term “Agreement”
6 means the agreement between the United States and
7 the Association dated September 6, 1917.

8 (2) ASSOCIATION.—The term “Association”
9 means the Salt River Valley Water Users’ Associa-
10 tion.

1 (3) COVERED LAND.—The term “covered land”
2 means the portion of the National Forest System
3 land located on the south side of the Salt River from
4 the March 9, 1903, 1-mile withdrawal area for Rec-
5 lamation purposes extending an additional 2 miles
6 from the Salt River at Roosevelt Dam to 18.25 river
7 miles downstream, not including the Superstition
8 Mountain Wilderness Area and the Tonto National
9 Monument, as depicted on the Map.

10 (4) DISTRICT.—The term “District” means the
11 Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and
12 Power District.

13 (5) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map
14 prepared under subsection (e)(1).

15 (6) SRP.—The term “SRP” means—

16 (A) the District; and

17 (B) the Association.

18 (b) RESERVATION OF COVERED LAND.—Subject to
19 valid existing rights, the covered land is reserved to the
20 United States, through the Secretary of the Interior, for
21 the exclusive right to use the covered land and interests
22 in the covered land for the development, generation, and
23 transmission of electrical power and energy for the use
24 and benefit of the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project
25 pursuant to the Agreement.

1 (c) WITHDRAWAL OF COVERED LAND.—The covered
2 land is permanently withdrawn from—

3 (1) all forms of entry, appropriation, and dis-
4 posal under the public land laws;

5 (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining
6 laws; and

7 (3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral
8 materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

9 (d) TITLE TO FACILITIES.—With respect to facilities
10 constructed by SRP on the covered land for the develop-
11 ment, generation, and transmission of electrical power and
12 energy—

13 (1) title shall be held by the United States as
14 part of the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project
15 pursuant to—

16 (A) section 6 of the Act of June 17, 1902
17 (32 Stat. 389, chapter 1093; 43 U.S.C. 498);
18 and

19 (B) the Agreement; and

20 (2) SRP shall be responsible for the care, oper-
21 ation, and maintenance pursuant to the Agreement.

22 (e) MAP.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
24 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of

1 Agriculture shall prepare a map depicting the
2 boundary of the covered land.

3 (2) AVAILABILITY.—The Map shall be on file
4 and available for public inspection in the appropriate
5 offices of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Rec-
6 lamation.

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