

Amendment to the Westerman ANS to H.R. 4776
Offered by Rep. Lee

Add at the end, insert:

SEC. 4. PARITY

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR PARITY.— (1) The Secretary of the Interior shall ensure that no category or specific type of energy project on Federal land is subject to more arbitrarily restrictive or burdensome procedural requirements than other types of energy projects regarding the processing and denial of applications, authorizations, or related approvals, including—

(1) requirements for elevated or discretionary review by the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, other political appointees, or career employees;

(2) additional documentation or review for energy projects that are not oil, gas, or coal projects not required for oil, gas, or coal projects;

(3) withholding, delaying, or reversing decisions by local, State, or regional entities for energy projects that are not oil, gas, or coal projects for reasons not applied to oil, gas or coal projects; and

(4) denial or delay of routine administrative authorizations, such as testing permits, cost recovery agreements, or notices to proceed once all criteria have been met for approval, based on underlying technology.

(b) POLICY REVIEW.—

(1) REVIEW.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Department of the Interior shall—

(A) review all applicable regulations, guidance documents, policy manuals, departmental directives, Secretarial orders, and other procedures, regarding energy projects; and

(B) identify any provision of such regulations, documents, manuals, directives, orders, and procedures not otherwise required in statute that do not comply with the requirements in subsection (a).

(c) RESCISSION.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, and without delay, the Secretary shall rescind and amend as necessary any provision identified under subsection (b) paragraph (1)(B).