

Amendment #2

Amendment to Westerman ANS to H.R. 5587 Offered by Rep. Hernández

At the end, insert the following:

SEC. 3. PUERTO RICO ENHANCED GEOTHERMAL ASSESSMENT, GROUNDWATER VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS, AND REPORTING.

Section 2501 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (30 U.S.C. 1028) is amended—

- (1) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and”;
- (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and
- (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.—

“(1) In General.— In carrying out the update required under subsection (c), the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the United States Geological Survey and in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall coordinate with relevant officials of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and institutions of higher education to expand geothermal assessments, including enhanced geothermal systems assessments, to include an assessment for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico that—

“(A) includes the production of high-resolution maps and supporting geospatial data consistent with the requirements of paragraph (1)(D);

“(B) includes analysis and mapping of groundwater vulnerability associated with enhanced geothermal systems exploration and development, with particular attention to karst terrain and other highly transmissive aquifer systems and;

“(C) includes analysis and mapping of seismic hazards and induced seismicity risks associated with geothermal systems exploration.”

“(2) Reports to Congress.— Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph and biennially thereafter until the date of completion of the assessment required under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey, shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report regarding the assessment required under paragraph (1), including—

“(A) the status of each activity carried out and product developed pursuant to the assessment;

“(B) a description of the coordination carried out pursuant to the assessment;

“(C) preliminary results of the assessment, as available;

“(D) a description of obstacles to the completion of the assessment; and

“(E) the planned next steps of the Secretary in carrying out the assessment.”.