

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1449

To amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to increase the frequency of lease sales, to require replacement sales, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2023

Mr. FULCHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to increase the frequency of lease sales, to require replacement sales, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Committing Leases
5 for Energy Access Now Act” or the “CLEAN Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. GEOTHERMAL LEASING.**

7 (a) ANNUAL LEASING.—Section 4(b) of the Geo-
8 thermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003(b)) is amend-
9 ed—

1 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “2 years” and
2 inserting “year”;

3 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as
4 paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

5 (3) after paragraph (2), by inserting the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(3) REPLACEMENT SALES.—If a lease sale
8 under paragraph (1) for a year is canceled or de-
9 layed, the Secretary of the Interior shall conduct a
10 replacement sale during the same year.

11 “(4) REQUIREMENT.—In conducting a lease
12 sale under paragraph (2) in a State described in
13 that paragraph, the Secretary of the Interior shall
14 offer all nominated parcels eligible for geothermal
15 development and utilization under the resource man-
16 agement plan in effect for the State.”.

17 (b) DEADLINES FOR CONSIDERATION OF GEO-
18 THERMAL DRILLING PERMITS.—Section 4 of the Geo-
19 thermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003) is amended
20 by adding at the end the following:

21 “(h) DEADLINES FOR CONSIDERATION OF GEO-
22 THERMAL DRILLING PERMITS.—

23 “(1) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after the
24 date on which the Secretary receives an application

1 for any geothermal drilling permit, the Secretary
2 shall—

3 “(A) provide written notice to the appli-
4 cant that the application is complete; or

5 “(B) notify the applicant that information
6 is missing and specify any information that is
7 required to be submitted for the application to
8 be complete.

9 “(2) ISSUANCE OF DECISION.—If the Secretary
10 determines that an application for a geothermal
11 drilling permit is complete under paragraph (1)(A),
12 the Secretary shall issue a final decision on the ap-
13 plication not later than 30 days after the Secretary
14 notifies the applicant that the application is com-
15 plete.”.

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