

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2665

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a smart energy and water efficiency program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 10, 2019

Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a smart energy and water efficiency program, 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 “Smart Energy and
5 Water Efficiency Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
2 ty” means—

3 (A) a municipality;

4 (B) a water district; and

5 (C) any other entity that provides water,
6 wastewater, or water reuse services, including a
7 joint water and power authority.

8 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of Energy.

10 (3) SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY
11 PROGRAM.—The term “smart energy and water effi-
12 ciency program” or “program” means the program
13 established under subsection (b).

14 (b) SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PRO-
15 GRAM.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
17 and carry out a smart energy and water efficiency
18 program in accordance with this section.

19 (2) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—In carrying out the
20 smart energy and water efficiency program, the Sec-
21 retary shall award grants to eligible entities to carry
22 out projects that implement advanced and innovative
23 technology-based solutions that will improve the en-
24 ergy or water efficiency of water, wastewater, or
25 water reuse systems to—

1 (A) help eligible entities make significant
2 progress in conserving water, conserving energy,
3 or reducing the operating costs of such systems;

4 (B) support the implementation of innova-
5 tive processes or the installation of advanced
6 automated systems that provide real-time data
7 on energy and water; or

8 (C) improve predictive maintenance of
9 water, wastewater, or water reuse systems
10 through the use of Internet-connected tech-
11 nologies, such as sensors, intelligent gateways,
12 or security embedded in hardware.

13 (3) PROJECT SELECTION.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
15 make competitive, merit-reviewed grants under
16 the program to not fewer than 3, but not more
17 than 5, eligible entities.

18 (B) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting an
19 eligible entity to receive a grant under the pro-
20 gram, the Secretary shall consider—

21 (i) energy and cost savings anticipated
22 to result from the project;

23 (ii) the innovative nature, commercial
24 viability, and reliability of the technology
25 to be used;

1 (iii) the degree to which the project
2 integrates innovative sensors, software,
3 hardware, analytics, and management
4 tools;

5 (iv) the anticipated cost-effectiveness
6 of the project in terms of energy savings,
7 water savings or reuse, and infrastructure
8 costs averted;

9 (v) whether the technology can be de-
10 ployed in a variety of geographic regions
11 and the degree to which the technology can
12 be implemented on a smaller or larger
13 scale, including whether the technology can
14 be implemented by other types of eligible
15 entities; and

16 (vi) whether implementation of the
17 project will be complete within 5 years.

18 (C) APPLICATIONS.—

19 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
20 (ii), an eligible entity seeking a grant
21 under the program shall submit to the Sec-
22 retary an application at such time, in such
23 manner, and containing such information
24 as the Secretary determines to be nec-
25 essary.

1 (ii) CONTENTS.—An application under
2 clause (i) shall, at a minimum, include—

3 (I) a description of the project;

4 (II) a description of the tech-
5 nology to be used in the project;

6 (III) the anticipated results, in-
7 cluding energy and water savings, of
8 the project;

9 (IV) a comprehensive budget for
10 the project; and

11 (V) the number of households or
12 customers that are served by the eligi-
13 ble entity and will benefit from the
14 project.

15 (4) ADMINISTRATION.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 300
17 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
18 the Secretary shall select grant recipients under
19 this section.

20 (B) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall
21 annually for 5 years carry out an evaluation of
22 each project for which a grant is provided
23 under this section that—

24 (i) evaluates the progress and effects
25 of the project; and

1 (ii) assesses the degree to which the
2 project can be replicated in other regions,
3 systems, and situations.

4 (C) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—On the re-
5 quest of a grant recipient, the Secretary shall
6 provide technical assistance to the grant recipi-
7 ent to carry out the project.

8 (D) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary
9 shall make available to the public—

10 (i) a copy of each evaluation carried
11 out under subparagraph (B); and

12 (ii) a description of any best practices
13 identified by the Secretary as a result of
14 those evaluations.

15 (E) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later
16 than the date on which the Secretary completes
17 the last evaluation required under subparagraph
18 (B), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a
19 report containing the results of each evaluation
20 carried out under such subparagraph.

21 (c) FUNDING.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not
23 less than \$15,000,000 of amounts made available to
24 the Secretary to carry out this section.

1 (2) PRIORITIZATION.—In funding activities
2 under this section, the Secretary shall prioritize
3 funding in the following manner:

4 (A) The Secretary shall first use any unob-
5 ligated amounts made available to the Secretary
6 to carry out the activities of the Energy Effi-
7 ciency and Renewable Energy Office.

8 (B) After any amounts described in sub-
9 paragraph (A) have been used, the Secretary
10 shall then use any unobligated amounts (other
11 than those described in subparagraph (A))
12 made available to the Secretary.

○