

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 203

To reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 31, 2005

Mr. THOMAS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, 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 “Soda Ash Royalty Re-  
5 duction Act of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. REDUCTION IN ROYALTY RATE ON SODA ASH.**

7 Notwithstanding section 102(a)(9) of the Federal  
8 Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C.  
9 1701(a)(9)), section 24 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30  
10 U.S.C. 262), and the terms of any lease under that Act,

1 the royalty rate on the quantity or gross value of the out-  
2 put of sodium compounds and related products at the  
3 point of shipment to market from Federal land in the 5-  
4 year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this  
5 Act shall be 2 percent.

6 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

7 After the end of the 4-year period beginning on the  
8 date of the enactment of this Act, and before the end of  
9 the 5-year period beginning on that date, the Secretary  
10 of the Interior shall report to the Congress on the effects  
11 of the royalty reduction under this Act, including—

12 (1) the amount of sodium compounds and re-  
13 lated products at the point of shipment to market  
14 from Federal land during that 4-year period;

15 (2) the number of jobs that have been created  
16 or maintained during the royalty reduction period;

17 (3) the total amount of royalty paid to the  
18 United States on the quantity or gross value of the  
19 output of sodium compounds and related products at  
20 the point of shipment to market produced during  
21 that 4-year period, and the portion of such royalty  
22 paid to States; and

23 (4) a recommendation of whether the reduced  
24 royalty rate should apply after the end of the 5-year

1 period beginning on the date of the enactment of  
2 this Act.

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