

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2540

To set clear rules for the development of United States oil shale resources, to promote shale technology research and development, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2009

Mr. LAMBORN (for himself, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mrs. LUMMIS, and Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To set clear rules for the development of United States oil shale resources, to promote shale technology research and development, 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 “ Protecting Investment
5 in Oil shale the Next generation of Environmental, Energy
6 and Resource Security (PIONEERS) Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. OIL SHALE.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that oil shale re-
3 sources located within the United States—

4 (1) total almost 2 trillion barrels of oil in place;

5 (2) are a strategically important domestic re-
6 source that should be developed on an accelerated
7 basis to reduce our growing reliance on politically
8 and economically unstable sources of foreign oil im-
9 ports;

10 (3) are one of the best resources available for
11 advancing American technology and creating Amer-
12 ican jobs; and

13 (4) will be a critically important component of
14 the Nation's transportation fuel sector in particular,
15 by providing a secure domestic source of aviation
16 fuel for both commercial and military uses.

17 (b) ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

18 LEASE SALES.—The Secretary of the Interior shall hold
19 a lease sale within 180 days after the date of enactment
20 of this Act offering an additional 10 parcels for lease for
21 research, development, and demonstration of oil shale re-
22 sources, under the terms offered in the solicitation of bids
23 for such leases published on January 15, 2009 (74 Fed.
24 Reg. 10).

25 (c) APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS.—The oil shale
26 management final rules published by the Department of

1 the Interior on November 18, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 223),
2 shall apply to all commercial leasing for the management
3 of federally owned oil shale, and any associated minerals,
4 located on Federal lands.

5 (d) REDUCED PAYMENTS TO ENSURE PRODUC-
6 TION.—The Secretary of the Interior may temporarily re-
7 duce royalties, fees, rentals, bonus, or other payments for
8 leases of Federal lands for the development and produc-
9 tion of oil shale resources as necessary to incentivize and
10 encourage development of such resources, if the Secretary
11 determines that the royalties, fees, rentals, bonus bids,
12 and other payments otherwise authorized by law are hin-
13 dering production of such resources.

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