

“(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ shall mean—

“(A) any department or agency of the Federal government; or

“(B) any department or agency of the state in which the historic light station is located, the local government of the community in which the historic light station is located, nonprofit corporation, educational agency, or community development organization that—

“(i) has agreed to comply with the conditions set forth in subsection (c) and to have such conditions recorded with the deed of title to the historic light station;

“(ii) is financially able to maintain the historic light station in accordance with the conditions set forth in subsection (c); and

“(iii) can indemnify the Federal government to cover any loss in connection with the historic light station, or any expenses incurred due to reversion.”

SEC. 3. SALE OF SURPLUS LIGHT STATIONS.

Title III of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470w–470w–6) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§309. Historic light station sales

“In the event no applicants are approved for the conveyance of a historic light station pursuant to section 308, the historic light station shall be offered for sale. Terms of such sales shall be developed by the Administrator of General Services. Conveyance documents shall include all necessary covenants to protect the historical integrity of the historic light station and ensure that any active aids to navigation located at the historic light station are operated and maintained by the United States for as long as needed for that purpose. Net sale proceeds shall be transferred to the National Maritime Heritage Grant Program, established by the National Maritime Heritage Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103–451, within the Department of the Interior.”

SEC. 4. TRANSFER OF HISTORIC LIGHT STATIONS TO FEDERAL AGENCIES.

Title III of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 16 U.S.C. 470–470x, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§310. Transfer of historic light stations to Federal agencies

“After the date of enactment of this section, any department or agency of the Federal government, to which a historic light station is conveyed, shall maintain the historic light station in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 16 U.S.C. 470–470x, the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and other applicable laws.”

SEC. 5. FUNDING.

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1043), as amended, was deemed read the third time and passed.

METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1998

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1418) to promote the research, identification, assessment, exploration, and development of methane hydrate resources, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments; as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. 1418

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 1997”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CONTRACT.—The term “contract” means a procurement contract within the meaning of 6303 of title 31, United States Code.

(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The term “cooperative agreement” means a cooperative agreement within the meaning of section 6305 of title 31, United States Code.

(3) GRANT.—The term “grant” means a grant agreement within the meaning of section 6304 of title 31, United States Code.

(4) METHANE HYDRATE.—The term “methane hydrate” means a methane clathrate that—

(A) is in the form of a methane-water ice-like crystalline material; and

(B) is stable and occurs naturally in deep-ocean and permafrost areas.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(6) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—The term “Secretary of Defense” means the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Secretary of the Navy.

(7) SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The term “Secretary of the Interior” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey.

(8) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

SEC. 3. METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

[(1) COMMENCEMENT OF PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Interior, shall commence a program of methane hydrate research and development.

[(2) DESIGNATIONS.—The Secretary, Secretary of Defense, and Secretary of the Interior shall designate individuals to implement this Act.]

(1) COMMENCEMENT OF PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director, shall commence a program of methane hydrate research and development.

(2) DESIGNATIONS.—The Secretary, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director shall designate individuals to implement this Act.

(3) MEETINGS.—The individuals designated under paragraph (2) shall meet not less frequently than every 120 days to review the progress of the program under paragraph (1) and make recommendations on future activities.

(b) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

(1) ASSISTANCE AND COORDINATION.—The Secretary may award grants or contracts to, or enter into cooperative agreements with, universities and industrial enterprises to—

(A) conduct basic and applied research to identify, explore, assess, and develop methane hydrate as a source of energy;

(B) assist in developing technologies required for efficient and environmentally sound development of methane hydrate resources;

(C) undertake research programs to provide safe means of transport and storage of methane produced from methane hydrates;

(D) promote education and training in methane hydrate resources research and resource development;

(E) conduct basic and applied research to assess and mitigate the environmental impacts of hydrate degassing, both natural and that associated with commercial development; and

(F) develop technologies to reduce the risks of drilling through methane hydrates.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary may establish an advisory panel consisting of experts from industry, academia, and Federal agencies to advise the Secretary on potential applications of methane hydrate and assist in developing recommendations and priorities for the methane hydrate research and development program carried out under this section.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 5 percent of the amount made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year may be used by the Secretary for expenses associated with the administration of the program under subsection (a)(1).

(2) CONSTRUCTION COSTS.—None of the funds made available to carry out this section may be used for the construction of a new building or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building (including site grading and improvement and architect fees).

(d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY.—In carrying out subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall—

(1) facilitate and develop partnerships among government, industry, and academia to research, identify, assess, and explore methane hydrate resources;

(2) undertake programs to develop basic information necessary for promoting long-term interest in methane hydrate resources as an energy source;

(3) ensure that the data and information developed through the program are accessible and widely disseminated as needed and appropriate;

(4) promote cooperation among agencies that are developing technologies that may hold promise for methane hydrate resource development; and

(5) report annually to Congress on accomplishments under this Act.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENT TO THE MINING AND MINERALS POLICY ACT OF 1970.

Section 201 of the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1901) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

(6) the term ‘methane hydrate’ means a methane clathrate that—

“(A) is in the form of a methane-water ice-like crystalline material; and

“(B) is stable and occurs naturally in deep-ocean and permafrost areas.”; and

(3) in paragraph (7) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as subparagraph (H); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:

“(G) methane hydrate; and”.

SEC. [4.] 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill (S. 1418), as amended, was deemed read the third time and passed.

LAND CONVEYANCE, COUNTY OF
RIO ARRIBA, NEW MEXICO

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1510) to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands to the county of Rio Arriba, New Mexico, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

S. 1510

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. OLD COYOTE ADMINISTRATIVE SITE.

(a) CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior (herein "the Secretary") shall convey to the County of Rio Arriba, New Mexico (herein "the County"), subject to the terms and conditions stated in subsection (b), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land (including all improvements on the land) known as the "Old Coyote Administrative Site" located approximately 1/2 mile east of the Village of Coyote, New Mexico, on State Road 96, comprising one tract of 130.27 acres (as described in Public Land Order 3730), and one tract of 276.76 acres (as described in Executive Order 4599).

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

(1) Consideration for the conveyance described in subsection (a) shall be—

(A) an amount that is consistent with the special pricing program for Governmental entities under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act; and

(B) an agreement between the Secretary and the County indemnifying the Government of the United States from all liability of the Government that arises from the property.

(2) The lands conveyed by this Act shall be used for public purposes. If such lands cease to be used for public purposes, at the option of the United States, such lands will revert to the United States.

(c) LAND WITHDRAWALS.—Land withdrawals under Public Land Order 3730 and Executive Order 4599 as extended in the Federal Register on May 25, 1989 (54 F.R. 22629) shall be revoked simultaneous with the conveyance of the property under subsection (a).

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1510), as amended, was deemed read the third time and passed.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I am very pleased that the Senate has today passed S. 1510, the Rio Arriba, New Mexico Land Conveyance Act of 1998. This legislation will provide long-term benefits for the people of Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

Seventy percent of Rio Arriba County is in federal ownership. Communities find themselves unable to grow or find available property necessary to provide local services. This legislation allows for transfer by the Secretary of the Interior real property and improvements at an abandoned and surplus administrative site for the Carson National Forest to Rio Arriba County. The site is known as the old Coyote Ranger District Station, near the small town of Coyote, New Mexico.

The Coyote Station will continue to be used for public purposes, including a community center, and a fire sub-

station. Some of the buildings will also be available for the County to use for storage and repair of road maintenance equipment, and other County vehicles.

Mr. President, the Forest Service has determined that this site is of no further use to them, since they have recently completed construction of a new administrative facility for the Coyote Ranger District. The Forest Service reported to the General Services Administration that the improvements on the site were considered surplus, and would be available for disposal under their administrative procedures. At this particular site, however, the land on which the facilities have been built is withdrawn public domain land, under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management.

I have worked closely with the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management since introducing this bill in November. The Administration is supportive of the legislation and the changes made to the bill.

Mr. President, since neither the Bureau of Land Management nor the Forest Service have any interest in maintaining Federal ownership of this land and the surplus facilities, and Rio Arriba County desperately needs them, passage of S. 1510 is a win-win situation for the federal government and New Mexico. I look forward to the House's agreement and Presidential signature soon.

LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL
RECREATION AREA

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1683) to transfer administrative jurisdiction over part of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture for inclusion in the Wenatchee National Forest, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

S. 1683

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS, LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST, WASHINGTON.

(a) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.—

(1) LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.—The boundary of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, established by section 202 of Public Law 90-544 (16 U.S.C. 90a-1), is hereby adjusted to exclude a parcel of land and waters consisting of approximately 88 acres, as depicted on the map entitled "Proposed Management Units, North Cascades, Washington", numbered NP-CAS-7002A, originally dated October 1967, and revised July 13, 1994.

(2) WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST.—The boundary of the Wenatchee National Forest is hereby adjusted to include the parcel of land and waters described in paragraph (1).

(3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map referred to in paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the superintendent of the Lake Chelan National

Recreation Area and the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and in the office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

(b) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.—Administrative jurisdiction over Federal land and waters in the parcel covered by the boundary adjustments in subsection (a) is transferred from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture, and the transferred land and waters shall be managed by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the laws and regulations pertaining to the National Forest System.

(c) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.—For purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-9), the boundaries of the Wenatchee National Forest, as adjusted by subsection (a), shall be considered to be the boundaries of the Wenatchee National Forest as of January 1, 1965.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1683), as amended, was deemed read the third time and passed.

SAND CREEK MASSACRE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE STUDY ACT OF 1998

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1695) to establish the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site in the State of Colorado, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Study Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) on November 29, 1864, Colonel John M. Chivington led a group of 700 armed soldiers to a peaceful Cheyenne village of more than 100 lodges on the Big Sandy, also known as Sand Creek, located within the Territory of Colorado, and in a running fight that ranged several miles upstream along the Big Sandy, slaughtered several hundred Indians in Chief Black Kettle's village, the majority of whom were women and children;

(2) the incident was quickly recognized as a national disgrace and investigated and condemned by 2 congressional committees and a military commission;

(3) although the United States admitted guilt and reparations were provided for in article VI of the Treaty of Little Arkansas of October 14, 1865 (14 Stat. 703) between the United States and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Indians, those treaty obligations remain unfulfilled;

(4) land at or near the site of the Sand Creek Massacre may be available for purchase from a willing seller; and

(5) the site is of great significance to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian descendants of those who lost their lives at the incident at Sand Creek and to their tribes, and those descendants and tribes deserve the right of open access to visit the site and rights of cultural and historical observance at the site.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

(2) SITE.—The term "site" means the Sand Creek massacre site described in section 2.

(3) TRIBES.—The term "Tribes" means—