

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

COAL LIQUEFACTION/GASIFICATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee held a hearing to examine the economic and environmental issues associated with coal liquefaction technology and on the implementation of the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 addressing coal

gasification, receiving testimony from Clarence L. Miller, Director, Office of Sequestration, Hydrogen, and Clean Coal Fuels, Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; Arie Geertsema, University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research, Lexington; David G. Hawkins, Natural Resources Defense Council, Washington, D.C.; D. Hunt Ramsbottom, Rentech, Inc., Los Angeles, California; and James F. Roberts, Foundation Coal Corporation, Linthicum Heights, Maryland.

Hearings continue on Monday, May 1.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2006.

Committee Meetings

HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA

Committee on International Relations: On April 19, the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations held a hearing entitled "Human Rights in China: Improving or Deteriorating Conditions?" Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

H.J. Res. 82, providing for the reappointment of Alan G. Spoon as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Signed on April 13, 2006. (Public Law 109-217)

H.R. 4979, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to clarify the preference for local firms in the award of certain contracts for disaster relief activities. Signed on April 20, 2006. (Public Law 109-218)

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 25 through April 29, 2006

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, at approximately 10:45 a.m., Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Gray Hampton Miller, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, with a vote on confirmation of the nomination to occur at approximately 11 a.m.; following which, Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4939, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, for debate only until after the 2:15 p.m. recess.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any other cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: April 26, to hold hearings to examine the state of the biofuels industry, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: April 26, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for National Guard and Reserve, 10 a.m., SD-192.

April 26, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Government Accountability Office and other issues, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 333)

H.R. 1259, to award a congressional gold medal on behalf of the Tuskegee Airmen, collectively, in recognition of their unique military record, which inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces. Signed on April 11, 2006. (Public Law 109-213)

S. 2116, to transfer jurisdiction of certain real property to the Supreme Court. Signed on April 11, 2006. (Public Law 109-214)

S. 2120, to ensure regulatory equity between and among all dairy farmers and handlers for sales of packaged fluid milk in federally regulated milk marketing areas and into certain non-federally regulated milk marketing areas from federally regulated areas. Signed on April 11, 2006. (Public Law 109-215)

H.J. Res. 81, providing for the appointment of Phillip Frost as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Signed on April 13, 2006. (Public Law 109-216)

April 26, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2 p.m., SD-192.

April 27, Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, the Judiciary, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, 9:30 a.m., SD-138.

April 27, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to resume hearings to examine the progress of the Capitol Visitor Center construction, 10:30 a.m., SD-116.

Committee on Armed Services: April 27, to hold a closed briefing on operations and intelligence, 10 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: April 25, to hold hearings to examine current securities issues, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: April 25, Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine certain NASA activities, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

April 26, Subcommittee on Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine fostering innovation in math and science education, 10 a.m., SD-562.

April 26, Subcommittee on Global Climate Change and Impacts, to hold hearings to examine certain marine and terrestrial systems, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

April 27, Subcommittee on Disaster Prevention and Prediction, to hold hearings to examine drought issues, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 26, business meeting to consider the nominations of Richard Capka, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, and James B. Gulliford, of Missouri, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, and William Ludwig Wehrum, Jr., of Tennessee, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, and a proposal to amend Committee Rule 7(d) relative to the naming of public buildings and facilities, 9:30 a.m., SD-628.

Committee on Finance: April 25, to hold hearings to examine the social and economic effects of the methamphetamine epidemic on America's child welfare system, 10:30 a.m., SD-215.

April 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine authorizations of customs and trade functions, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 26, to hold hearings to examine United States-India atomic energy cooperation, focusing on strategic and nonproliferation implications, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

April 27, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Narcotics Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the progress of implementing the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: April 25, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security,

to hold hearings to examine the scope of illicit activity funding the current regime of North Korea, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

April 26, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine ensuring early diagnosis and access to treatment for HIV/AIDS, focusing on how federal funding is being distributed to provide AIDS drugs and HIV testing opportunities in the United States, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 25, to hold hearings to examine immigration issues, focusing on economic impacts, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

April 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pending judicial nominations, 2:15 p.m., SD-226.

April 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the future of the music industry in the digital radio revolution, focusing on parity, platforms, and protection issues, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

April 27, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

April 27, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine renewing the temporary provisions of the Voting Rights Act, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: April 26, to hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the Finance and Entrepreneurial Development programs administered by the Small Business Administration, 10:30 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: April 27, business meeting to consider the nomination of Daniel L. Cooper, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to be followed by a hearing on issues relating to VA research, 10 a.m., SR-418.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, April 26, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing to review the Federal Crop Insurance Program, 11:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, April 26, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, on Oversight of Reform of the DOE Nuclear Weapons Complex, 10 a.m., 2362B Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs, on USAID, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Science, the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies, on Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

April 27, Subcommittee on Science, the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies, on SEC, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, April 26, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, to mark up H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to mark up H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 11:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, to mark up H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Projection Forces, to mark up H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 11 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Readiness, to mark up H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, to mark up H.R. 5122, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, April 26, hearing entitled "Gulf Coast Recovery: Facing Challenges and Coming Back Stronger in Education," 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing entitled: Examining the Use of Non-Consensus Standards in Workplace Health and Safety," 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, April 26, to mark up the Communications Opportunity, Promotion, and Enhancement Act, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, hearing on Pipeline Safety: A Progress Report Since the Enactment of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Reauthorizing the Ryan White CARE Act: How to Improve the Program to Ensure Access to Care," 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 25, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing on H.R. 5039, Saving America's Rural Housing Act of 2006, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing entitled "America's Capital Markets: Maintaining Our Lead in the 21st Century," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing entitled " Title Insurance: Cost and Competition," 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology, hearing entitled "CFIUS and the Role of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States," 11 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, April 25, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization, hearing entitled "Yucca Mountain: Broken Management, Broken Quality Assurance, Broken Project," 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, hearing entitled "A New Assessment of Iraq," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, hearing entitled "Transit Zone Operations: Can We Sustain Record Seizures and Declining Resources," 2 p.m., 2203 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization, hearing entitled "Adding a Real

Estate Investment Trust (REIT) Index Option to the Thrift Savings Plan: Considering the Views and Advisory Role of the Employee Thrift Advisory Council (ETAC);" followed by a mark up of H.R. 1578, Real Estate Investment Thrift Savings Act, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 27, full Committee, hearing entitled "Financial Friendly Fire: A Review of Persistent Military Pay Problems," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 28, hearing entitled "Making the Grade? Examining District of Columbia Public Schools Reform Proposals," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, April 25, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Science and Technology, hearing entitled "The State of Interoperable Communications: Perspectives on Federal Coordination of Grants, Standards and Technology," 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

April 26, full Committee, to mark up H.R. 4954, SAFE Port Act, 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

April 27, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism, executive, briefing on the GAO report Information Sharing: The Federal Government Needs to Establish Policies and Processes for Sharing Terrorism-Related and Sensitive but Unclassified Information (GAO-06-385), 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on International Relations, April 26, hearing on Iraq: Update on U.S. Policy, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, hearing on the Endangered Children of Northern Uganda, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, to continue hearings on U.S. Policy in Central Asia: Balancing Priorities (Part II), 2 p.m., 2255 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, hearing on U.S.-Mexico Relations, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 27, full Committee, hearing on United Nations Reform: Improving Internal Oversight Within the UN, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, joint hearing on North Korea: Human Rights Update and International Abduction Issues, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, April 25, Task Force on Telecom and Antitrust, oversight hearing on Network Neutrality: Competition, Innovation and Nondiscriminatory Access, 4 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, oversight hearing on the Department of Justice: Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Civil Division, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Executive Office for United States Trustees, and Office of the Solicitor General, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on the Constitution, oversight hearing on the Constitution and Line Item Veto, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, oversight hearing on Patent Harmonization, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, April 27, oversight hearing on The Report by the Administration's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 27, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, oversight hearing on the GAO Report on Promoting Woody Biomass for Energy and Other Uses, 1 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

April 27, Subcommittee on National Parks, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1796, Mississippi River Trail Study Act; H.R. 3085, to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability study originally prepared for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and provide for the inclusion of new trail segments, land components, and campgrounds associated with that trail; and H.R. 4612 Wright Brothers-Dunbar National Historic Park Designation Act, 2:30 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, April 25, to consider H.R. 5020, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, 5 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, April 27, hearing on H.R. 5143, H-Prize Act of 2006, 9:30 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 26, hearing entitled "Cutting Our Trade Deficit: Can the U.S. Muster Its Diverse Trade Promotion Operations to Make an Impact?" 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Workforce Empowerment and Government Programs, hearing entitled "Healthcare and Small Business: Proposals That Will Help Lower Costs and Cover the Uninsured," 10:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, April 26, Subcommittee on Aviation, oversight hearing on Air

Traffic Control Modernization: The Present and Future, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Railroads, oversight hearing on the U.S. Rail Capacity Crunch, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, oversight hearing on Implementation of the Oil Pollution Act, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, April 26, oversight hearing on Corporate Commitment to Hiring Veterans, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

April 27, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on the following: H.R. 4791, Disabled Veterans Adaptive Housing Improvement Act; the Veterans Employment State Grant Improvement Act of 2006; the GI Bill Flexibility Act of 2006; the Veterans and Credentialing Act of 2006; and a proposal to amend to H.R. 3082, Veterans-Owned Small Business Promotion Act of 2005, 1:30 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 27, executive, briefing on Global Updates/Hotspots, 9 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: April 25, to hold hearings to examine the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster 20 years later, and the response of the affected countries and the international community, 2 p.m., 2226 RHOB.

Joint Economic Committee: April 27, to hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook, 10 a.m., Room to be announced.