

HR 3968

Federal Mineral Development and Land Protection Equity Act of 2005

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Oct 6, 2005

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. (Oct 18, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/3968>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Rahall, Nick J., II [D-WV-3]

Party: Democratic • State: WV • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Inslee, Jay [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Kucinich, Dennis J. [D-OH-10]	D · OH		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]	R · CT		Oct 6, 2005
Rep. Evans, Lane [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Oct 18, 2005
Rep. Udall, Mark [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Oct 18, 2005
Rep. Frank, Barney [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Nov 3, 2005
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Wu, David [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jun 6, 2006
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Sep 6, 2006

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 18, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

## Related Bills

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*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Oct 6, 2005)

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Federal Mineral Development and Land Protection Equity Act of 2005 - Sets forth guidelines for: (1) mineral exploration and development on public domain lands; and (2) exclusive right of possession and use of the claimed land for mineral activities by holders of mining claims executed under this Act.

Subjects unpatented mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites to an annual claim maintenance fee payable to the Secretary of the Interior in lieu of assessment work requirements contained in the general mining laws and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Exempts from such fee any claimants holding ten or fewer mining claims who elect to perform the assessment work.

Requires locators of unpatented mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites located after enactment of this Act to pay a location fee.

Establishes forfeiture penalties against holders of mining claims for noncompliance with this Act.

Prescribes guidelines for royalty payments applicable to production of locatable minerals, including mineral concentrates or products derived from locatable minerals. Cites federal lands which are not open to location of mining claims.

Requires the Secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture, respectively, to review the suitability of lands for mineral activities.

Requires: (1) a permit to engage in mineral activities on federal land that may cause a disturbance of surface resources; (2) an operations permit to carry out any activity greater than casual use; (3) financial assurance to cover lands and affected waters that may require restoration or treatment of effluent as a result of mineral activities; and (4) operation and reclamation standards.

Permits state or local law or regulation more stringent than the requirements of this Act.

Establishes the Abandoned Locatable Minerals Mine Reclamation Fund in the Treasury.

Amends the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 and the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980, to modify the responsibilities of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Requires the Secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture to: (1) establish and collect user fees; and (2) inspect and monitor mineral activities for compliance with certain environmental protection requirements.

Authorizes citizens' civil action suits for noncompliance with this Act.

Repeals the Building Stone Act and the Saline Placer Act.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Oct 18, 2005:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Oct 6, 2005:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 6, 2005:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 6, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E2017-2018)
- **Oct 6, 2005:** Referred to the House Committee on Resources.