Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/109/s/53

S 53

A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue separately, for the same area, a lease for tar sand and a lease for oil and gas, and for other purposes.

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Energy
Introduced: Jan 24, 2005

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Jan 24, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/53

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]

Party: Republican • State: UT • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennett, Robert F. [R-UT]	$R \cdot UT$		Feb 2, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 24, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 24, 2005)

Amends the Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue separately, for the same area, a lease for tar sand and a lease for oil and gas.

Declares that such a lease shall not be further subject to the Combined Hydrocarbon Leasing Act of 1981.

Requires a lease for tar sand to be issued using the same bidding process, annual rental, and posting period as a lease issued for oil and gas. Sets the minimum acceptable bid for a tar sand lease at \$2 per acre.

Authorizes the Secretary, in order to promote any resource covered by a combined hydrocarbon lease, to waive, suspend, or alter any requirement that a permittee under a permit authorizing prospecting for tar sand must exercise due diligence.

Actions Timeline

- Jan 24, 2005: Introduced in Senate
- Jan 24, 2005: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.