

## S 2950

Gold King ACT

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** May 18, 2016

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (May 18, 2016)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2950>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** CO • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		May 18, 2016

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 18, 2016

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Environmental Protection

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 4483	Related bill	<b>Feb 5, 2016:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
114 HR 3602	Related bill	<b>Oct 5, 2015:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
114 S 2063	Related bill	<b>Sep 22, 2015:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## **Gold King Accountability and Compensation for Taxpayers or the Gold King ACT**

This bill allows a person to bring a compensation claim for allowable damages (i.e., property, business, or financial losses) under the Federal Tort Claims Act if the claim is related to an injury resulting from the spill in Cement Creek from the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado. The spill occurred on August 5, 2015. The bill prohibits certain exemptions and limitations on tort claims against the United States under the Act from applying to claims for injuries resulting from the spill.

The EPA must receive, process, and pay under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 claims related to the Gold King Mine spill, including claims that otherwise would be ineligible under that Act or the national oil and hazardous substances pollution contingency plan if the response action carried out by the claimant is not inconsistent with the plan. The EPA must pay claims from unobligated balances in its accounts.

The EPA must develop and implement a program for long-term water quality monitoring of the Animas River.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **May 18, 2016:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 18, 2016:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.