

## HR 2880

### Promoting Closed-Loop Pumped Storage Hydropower Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Energy

**Introduced:** Jun 12, 2017

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Dec 13, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2880>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** VA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

| Committee                              | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee          | House   | Reported by | Oct 26, 2017 |
| Energy and Natural Resources Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Dec 13, 2017 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Energy

### Related Bills

| Bill       | Relationship | Last Action                                  |
|------------|--------------|--|
| 115 S 3021 | Related bill | Oct 23, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-270. |

## Promoting Closed-Loop Pumped Storage Hydropower Act

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the Federal Power Act to authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to establish an expedited licensing process for issuing and amending licenses and preliminary permits for closed-loop pumped storage projects (in which the upper and lower reservoirs do not impound or directly withdraw water from navigable waters, or that are not continuously connected to a naturally flowing water feature).

In establishing the expedited process, FERC shall convene an interagency task force with appropriate federal and state agencies and Indian tribes to coordinate the regulatory process associated with the authorizations required to construct and operate closed-loop pumped storage projects.

FERC must assess the safety of existing dams and other structures related to the project before issuing any license for a closed-loop storage project.

FERC must hold a workshop to explore potential opportunities for development of storage projects at abandoned mine sites.

FERC must also establish criteria that a project shall meet to qualify as a closed-loop pumped storage under this bill, including requiring that the project cause little to no change to existing surface and groundwater flows and uses and that the project is unlikely to adversely affect species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

(Sec. 3) Licensees are not required to pay an annual charge for administrative expenses until construction commences.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Dec 13, 2017:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Dec 12, 2017:** Mr. Upton moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Dec 12, 2017:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H9812-9814)
- **Dec 12, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2880.
- **Dec 12, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H9812)
- **Dec 12, 2017:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H9812)
- **Dec 12, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 11, 2017:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 115-458.
- **Dec 11, 2017:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 340.
- **Dec 6, 2017:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Dec 6, 2017:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Oct 26, 2017:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote .
- **Jun 16, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy.
- **Jun 12, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 12, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.