

HR 5445

Critical Infrastructure Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Dec 17, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. (Jan 8, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5445>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Crawford, Eric A. "Rick" [R-AR-1]	R · AR		Dec 18, 2019
Rep. Gianforte, Greg [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Dec 19, 2019
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Dec 19, 2019
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Jan 9, 2020
Rep. McClinton, Tom [R-CA-4]	R · CA		Jan 9, 2020
Rep. Cheney, Liz [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Jan 13, 2020
Rep. Armstrong, Kelly [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Feb 4, 2020
Rep. Lesko, Debbie [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Feb 4, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 8, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Critical Infrastructure Act of 2019

This bill (1) requires specified power administrations to disclose all estimated costs and factors affecting total power costs, such as costs for complying with environmental laws impacting the conservation of fish and wildlife, (2) prohibits the Department of the Interior from designating critical habitat in certain water infrastructure areas, and (3) provides exemptions from environmental review requirements for certain electrical power projects or construction projects that may affect prairie dogs.

Specifically, the bill requires the Bonneville Power Administration, the Western Area Power Administration, the Southwestern Power Administration, and the Southeastern Power Administration to include in monthly billing statements sent to each customer estimates of all costs and factors affecting total power costs. The estimates must include the customer's share of such administration's costs for compliance with any relevant federal environmental laws impacting the conservation of fish and wildlife.

Each administration must report each year on (1) all estimated costs and factors affecting total power costs, including estimates of its total compliance costs; and (2) sources of replacement power.

The bill prohibits Interior from designating critical habitat for endangered or threatened species in certain water storage, diversion, or delivery facilities.

In addition, the bill exempts projects to install or maintain electrical transmission poles or power lines from environmental review requirements. The bill also exempts from such review construction projects that include buffer areas if the projects would otherwise only require an environmental assessment because of the presence of prairie dogs in such buffer areas.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 8, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **Dec 17, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 17, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.