

HR 2641

Pacific Northwest Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Apr 19, 2021

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 463.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 463. (Dec 15, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2641>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	May 26, 2021
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	May 26, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 3684	Related bill	Aug 4, 2022: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Hearings held.
117 S 2377	Related bill	Jul 19, 2021: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 104.
117 S 1246	Identical bill	Apr 20, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Pacific Northwest Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act of 2021

This bill provides the Department of the Interior exclusive authority to develop hydropower facilities in certain instances and contains other related provisions.

Specifically, Interior shall have exclusive authority to develop small conduit hydropower using Bureau of Reclamation facilities and pumped storage hydropower that exclusively use bureau reservoirs. Currently, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) also has regulatory authority over some of the bureau infrastructure involved in such projects, so some projects require approval from both Interior and FERC.

The bill also imposes various requirements related to certain proposed projects involving specified tribes in Washington State. Before Interior may issue a lease to use power generated from such a project, the parties involved must agree to a study plan that lays out certain information, time lines, and procedures for addressing issues. Such a lease must also meet certain requirements, such as conditions to ensure that the project will not interfere with the tribes' hunting and fishing rights.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 15, 2022:** Reported by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 117-644.
- **Dec 15, 2022:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 463.
- **May 26, 2021:** Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Discharged.
- **May 26, 2021:** Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States Discharged.
- **May 26, 2021:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 26, 2021:** Ordered to be Reported by Unanimous Consent.
- **May 21, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **May 21, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States.
- **Apr 19, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 19, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.