

S 966

Northwest Energy Security Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Mar 23, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Mar 23, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/966>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Mar 23, 2023
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Apr 19, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 23, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 1762	Related bill	Apr 14, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries.

Northwest Energy Security Act

This bill requires Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) operations to be consistent with a specified decision. The system includes dams in the Columbia and Snake rivers in the Pacific Northwest.

Specifically, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Bonneville Power Administration, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must operate the FCRPS consistent with the Columbia River System Operations Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision dated September 2020. The preferred alternative outlined in that decision would allow specified dams in the lower Snake River to remain in place.

The decision may be amended if each agency determines that (1) changes are necessary for public safety or electrical grid reliability, or (2) certain requirements in the decision are no longer necessary.

Further, the bill requires statutory authorization for any structural modification, action, study, or engineering plan that (1) restricts FCRPS hydroelectric dam generation; or (2) limits navigation on the Snake River in Washington, Oregon, or Idaho.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 23, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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