

Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | January 22 - January 26, 2024

Highlights:

In the Senate, the *Providing Reliable, Objective, Verifiable Emissions Intensity and Transparency (PROVE IT) Act of 2023* ([S.1863](#)) passed out of the Environment and Public Works Committee, and will now be up for a vote on the Senate floor. Introduced by Sens. Chris Coons (D-Del.) and Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), this [tripartisan](#) bill will mandate a report on the greenhouse gas emissions intensity of various American-made products. The bill would also quantify the climate benefits of domestic low and zero-emission manufacturing investments.

The *Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2023* ([S.2781](#)), reintroduced by Sens. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Jim Risch (R-Idaho), also passed the Environmental and Public Works Committee and is scheduled for a full Senate vote. The [tripartisan](#) bill will make it easier for local governments as well as nongovernmental organizations and other groups to remediate and improve water quality in and around abandoned hardrock mines. EESI's [article](#) on clean energy development on reclaimed mine lands exemplifies some of the benefits of remediating these areas.

Reps. Donald Beyer (D-Va.), Mike Lawler (R-N.Y.), and Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) introduced the *Innovative Practices for Soil Health Act* ([H.R.7076](#)). This [bipartisan](#) bill aims to bolster existing U.S. Department of Agriculture conservation programs to ensure those programs can better support farmers who protect soil health and resilience. EESI's [briefing](#), *Conservation Practices from Farms to Forests and Wetlands*, highlights conservation opportunities within the upcoming Farm Bill as well as barriers to accessing conservation programs.

The Senate Budget Committee concluded a [hearing](#) titled *Warming Seas, Cooling Economy: How the Climate Crisis Threatens Ocean Industries*. Experts representing ocean and climate research, large-scale commercial fishing, small business, and supply chain economics testified on economic impacts of climate-induced sea level rise, ocean ecosystem destruction, and mass fish migrations.

January 26, 2024

No climate or energy related activity in the House or Senate today.

January 25, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7076](#)

Innovative Practices for Soil Health Act

Sponsor: [Beyer, Donald S., Jr. \[Rep.-D-VA-8\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 01/25/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

[H.R.7079](#)

To prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing certain changes to regulations regarding meat and poultry products effluent discharges, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Burlison, Eric \[Rep.-R-MO-7\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 01/25/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[H.R.7081](#)

To establish a process for waiver of coastwise endorsement requirements.

Sponsor: [Cline, Ben \[Rep.-R-VA-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 01/25/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[H.Con.Res.86](#)

Expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy.

Sponsor: [Zinke, Ryan K. \[Rep.-R-MT-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (13)

Committees: House - Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 01/25/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3661](#)

A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to periodically assess cybersecurity threats to, and vulnerabilities in, the agriculture and food critical infrastructure sector and to provide recommendations to enhance their security and resilience, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct an annual cross-sector simulation exercise relating to a food-related emergency or disruption, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Cotton, Tom \[Sen.-R-AR\]](#) Cosponsors: (7)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 01/25/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

[S.3665](#)

A bill to establish a process for waiver of coastwise endorsement requirements.

Sponsor: [Lee, Mike \[Sen.-R-UT\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 01/25/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

[S.3669](#)

A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to require transportation planners to consider projects and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Markey, Edward J. \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 01/25/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3670](#)

A bill to require States to establish complete streets programs, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Markey, Edward J. \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 01/25/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3672](#)

A bill to support healthy fisheries in dynamic ocean conditions, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Blumenthal, Richard \[Sen.-D-CT\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 01/25/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Bills Reported:

[S.1863](#)

Providing Reliable, Objective, Verifiable Emissions Intensity and Transparency (PROVE IT) Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Coons, Christopher A. \[Sen.-D-DE\]](#) Cosponsors: (12)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 01/25/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 311.

[S.2781](#)

Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Heinrich, Martin \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) Cosponsors: (27)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 01/25/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 312.

Committee Meetings:

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program, focusing on local perspectives on challenges and solutions, including [S. 2968](#), to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program, [S. 3349](#), to prohibit the Federal Insurance Office of the Department of the Treasury and other financial regulators from collecting data directly from an insurance company, and [S. 1380](#), to amend the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to provide States and communities with additional assistance to plant and maintain trees, after receiving testimony from Mayor Steve Patterson, Athens, Ohio, on behalf of the National League of Cities; Michael Hecht, Greater New Orleans, Inc., New Orleans, Louisiana, on behalf of the Coalition for Sustainable Flood Insurance; and Daniel Kaniewski, Marsh McLennan, New York, New York.

January 24, 2024

House:

No climate or energy related activity in the House today.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

S.3649

A bill to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide a disclosure notice to homebuyers of properties owned by the Department of Housing and Urban Development that are located in special flood hazard areas, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rubio, Marco \[Sen.-R-FL\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 01/24/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

S.3650

A bill to amend the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 to improve mapping under the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rubio, Marco \[Sen.-R-FL\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 01/24/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

S.3655

A bill to prohibit a drawdown and sale of petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve if the President has withdrawn certain land from oil and gas leasing, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Budd, Ted \[Sen.-R-NC\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 01/24/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Committee Meetings:

OCEAN INDUSTRIES

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine how the climate crisis threatens ocean industries, after receiving testimony from Andrea Dutton, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Rashid Sumaila, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada; Thomas K. Frazer, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg; Phil Levy, Flexport, New York, New York; and Kyle Schaefer, Kittery Point, Maine.

TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT OVERSIGHT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight [hearing](#) to examine the Toxic Substances Control Act amendments implementation, after receiving testimony from Michal Freedhoff, Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency.

January 23, 2024

House:

No climate or energy related activity in the House today.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3637](#)

A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 with respect to the definition of biofuels and sustainable aviation fuel, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Moran, Jerry \[Sen.-R-KS\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 01/23/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

[S.3642](#)

Advanced Weather Model Computing Development Act

Sponsor: [Lujan, Ben Ray \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 01/23/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

January 22, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7065](#)

To include water supply and water conservation as a primary mission of the Corps of Engineers in planning, designing, constructing, modifying, operating, and maintaining water resources development projects, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Napolitano, Grace F. \[Rep.-D-CA-31\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 01/22/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[H.R.7066](#)

To prohibit the use of Federal funds to allow or study the breach or alteration of the Lower Snake River dams or implement the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Newhouse, Dan \[Rep.-R-WA-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/22/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7067](#)

To amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Norton, Eleanor Holmes \[Del.-D-DC-At Large\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/22/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7070](#)

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct a review of the criteria for evaluating the cost-effectiveness of certain mitigation projects, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Stanton, Greg \[Rep.-D-AZ-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 01/22/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[H.R.7072](#)

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System land in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest to Tony's Wabeno Redi-Mix, LLC, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Tiffany, Thomas P. \[Rep.-R-WI-7\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Agriculture; Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/22/2024 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker,

[H.R.7073](#)

To improve public-private partnerships and increase Federal research, development, and demonstration related to the evolution of next generation pipeline systems, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Weber, Randy K., Sr. \[Rep.-R-TX-14\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 01/22/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Senate:

No climate or energy related activity in the Senate today.