

Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | October 16 - 20, 2023

Highlights:

Reps. Susie Lee (D-Nev.), Juan Ciscomani (R-Ariz.), and Paul Tonko (D-N.Y.) and Sens. Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.), Alex Padilla (D-Calif.), and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) introduced the *Streamlining Home Installations of New Energies (SHINE) Act* ([H.R.5997/S.3099](#)). The bill aims to accelerate the clean energy transition by streamlining the permitting and inspection processes for residents to install renewable energy and energy efficiency systems.

Reps. Josh Harder (D-Calif.) and Tracey Mann (R-Kans.) introduced a bill ([H.R.5992](#)) to expand insurance eligibility for farmers whose land has been impeded from cultivation due to natural disaster-induced damage, including drought.

Reps. Rick Larsen (D-Wash.), Grace Napolitano (D-Calif.), Don Beyer (D-Va.), and Melanie Stansbury (D-N.M.) introduced the *Clean Water Act of 2023* ([H.R.5983](#)). The bill, which is supported by more than 100 House Democrats, aims to clarify the meaning of “protected water resources” under the Clean Water Act of 1972 in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Sackett v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*. Professor Steph Tai of the University of Wisconsin-Madison explained the implications of this case on *The Climate Conversation*. Listen to the podcast episode [here](#).

October 20, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.6008](#)

To prohibit the implementation of certain documents until the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service issues documents relating to the Rice's whale.

Sponsor: [Graves, Garret \[Rep.-R-LA-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Latest Action: 10/20/2023 Introduced in House

[H.R.6009](#)

To require the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to withdraw the proposed rule relating to fluid mineral leases and leasing process, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Boebert, Lauren \[Rep.-R-CO-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (10)

Latest Action: 10/20/2023 Introduced in House

[H.R.6011](#)

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to notify applicants of the completion status of right-of-way applications under section 501 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act.

Sponsor: [Valadao, David G. \[Rep.-R-CA-22\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Latest Action: 10/20/2023 Introduced in House

[H.R.6012](#)

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to permit removal of trees around electrical lines on National Forest System land without conducting a timber sale, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Carbajal, Salud O. \[Rep.-D-CA-24\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Latest Action: 10/20/2023 Introduced in House

[H.R.6013](#)

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a business tax credit for the purchase of zero-emission electric lawn, garden, and landscape equipment, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Correa, J. Luis \[Rep.-D-CA-46\]](#) Cosponsors: (6)

Latest Action: 10/20/2023 Introduced in House

[H.Res.802](#)

Supporting the designation of October 23, 2023, as "National Marine Sanctuary Day".

Sponsor: [Huffman, Jared \[Rep.-D-CA-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Latest Action: 10/20/2023 Introduced in House

Senate:

No climate or energy related activity in the Senate today.

October 19, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.5992](#)

To amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to modify eligibility for prevented planting insurance under certain drought conditions, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Harder, Josh \[Rep.-D-CA-9\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Latest Action: 10/19/2023 Introduced in House

[H.R.5997](#)

Streamlining Home Installations of New Energies (SHINE) Act

Sponsor: [Lee, Susie \[Rep.-D-NV-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Latest Action: 10/19/2023 Introduced in House

Committee Meetings:

THE ROLE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN POWERING AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security held a [hearing](#) entitled "The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Powering America's Energy Future". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a [hearing](#) on [H.R.1727](#), the "Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission Extension Act";legislation on the Trash Reduction And Suppressing Harm from Environmental Degradation at the Border Act; and legislation on the Ensuring Border Access and Protection on Federal Land Act. Testimony was heard from Joann Ariola, Council Member, 32nd District, New York City Council, New York; Troy Heithecker, Associate Deputy Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; George Lewis, Chair, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Federal Advisory Commission, U.S. National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and a public witness.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3082](#)

A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make changes with respect to water quality certification, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Barrasso, John \[Sen.-R-WY\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 10/19/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3094](#)

A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed rule with respect to emissions from vehicles, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Crapo, Mike \[Sen.-R-ID\]](#) Cosponsors: (28)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 10/19/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3097](#)

A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide support for organic dairy producers and processors, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Welch, Peter \[Sen.-D-VT\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 10/19/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

[S.3099](#)

A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to further develop and support the adoption of a voluntary streamlined permitting and inspection process for authorities having jurisdiction over the permitting of qualifying distributed energy systems, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Heinrich, Martin \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 10/19/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.Res.419](#)

A resolution designating October 23, 2023, as "National Marine Sanctuary Day".

Sponsor: [Baldwin, Tammy \[Sen.-D-WI\]](#) Cosponsors: (7)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest Action: Senate - 10/19/2023 Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Committee Meetings:

DOE COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND LOANS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine the Department of Energy's due diligence process for awarding competitive grants and loans funded through the Inflation Reduction Act and the bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Department's overall innovation investment strategy, after receiving testimony from David Crane, Under Secretary for Infrastructure, Jigar Shah, Director, Loan Programs Office, and Teri L. Donaldson, Inspector General, all of the Department of Energy.

October 18, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.5980](#)

To amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize state of good repair grants to be used for public transportation resilience improvement, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Espaillat, Adriano \[Rep.-D-NY-13\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Latest Action: 10/18/2023 Introduced in House

[H.R.5983](#)

Clean Water Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Larsen, Rick \[Rep.-D-WA-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (117)

Latest Action: 10/18/2023 Introduced in House

Committee Meetings:

EXPOSING EPA EFFORTS TO LIMIT CHEMICALS NEEDED FOR LIFE-SAVING MEDICAL DEVICES AND OTHER ESSENTIAL PRODUCTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials held a [hearing](#) entitled "Exposing EPA Efforts to Limit Chemicals

Needed for Life-Saving Medical Devices and Other Essential Products". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S UNPRECEDENTED OBSTRUCTION OF THE BOEM OFFSHORE LEASING PROGRAM

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a [hearing](#) entitled "Examining the Biden Administration's Unprecedented Obstruction of the BOEM Offshore Leasing Program". Testimony was heard from Jerry Moses, Director of State and Federal Relations, Alaska; Liz Klein, Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a [hearing](#) on [H.R. 4389](#), the "Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act of 2023"; [H.R. 4770](#), the "Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023"; and [H.R. 5009](#), the "WILD Act". Testimony was heard from Representative Sarbanes; Robert T. Caccese, Director of Policy, Planning and Communications, Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania; Carrie Selberg Robinson, Director, Office of Habitat Conservation, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Program Management and Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

SECURING OUR BORDER, SAVING OUR NATIONAL PARKS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a [hearing](#) entitled "Securing Our Border, Saving Our National Parks". Testimony was heard from Michael Reynolds, Deputy Director, U.S. National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Chris French, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; John Nores, Jr., Special Operations, Marijuana Enforcement Team, California Department of Fish and Wildlife; and public witnesses.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3067](#)

Facilitating Hazard Mitigation Projects Act

Sponsor: [Peters, Gary C. \[Sen.-D-MI\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 10/18/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

[S.3079](#)

A bill to establish a policy regarding appraisal and valuation services for real property for a transaction over which the Secretary of the Interior has jurisdiction, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Cortez Masto, Catherine \[Sen.-D-NV\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 10/18/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.3080](#)

A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize state of good repair grants to be used for public transportation resilience improvement, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Gillibrand, Kirsten E. \[Sen.-D-NY\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 10/18/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Passed Senate:

[S.Res.414](#)

A resolution designating October 8, 2023, as "National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day".

Sponsor: [Graham, Lindsey \[Sen.-R-SC\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Latest Action: Senate - 10/18/2023 Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

Committee Meetings:

CLEAN WATER ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine the implications of [Sackett v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) for Clean Water Act protections of wetlands and streams, after receiving testimony from S. Mazeika Patricio Sullivan, Clemson University Experiment Station Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, Clemson, South Carolina; Kourtney Revels,

Bayou City Waterkeeper, Houston, Texas; and Susan Parker Bodine, Earth and Water Law, Washington, D.C.

October 17, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.5964](#)

To reduce methane emissions from flaring and venting natural gas during oil and natural gas production activities, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Curtis, John R. \[Rep.-R-UT-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Latest Action: 10/17/2023 Introduced in House

[H.R.5971](#)

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to direct a study on soil health of Federal lands, and for other purposes.⁴⁹

Sponsor: [Neguse, Joe \[Rep.-D-CO-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Latest Action: 10/17/2023 Introduced in House

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3055](#)

A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to update the modeling used for lifecycle greenhouse gas assessments for approved fuel pathways under the Renewable Fuel Standard, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Thune, John \[Sen.-R-SD\]](#) Cosponsors: (10)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 10/17/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3062](#)

A bill to provide for the removal of small-diameter trees in fire hazard areas, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [King, Angus S., Jr. \[Sen.-I-ME\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 10/17/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.3063](#)

Jobs in the Woods Act

Sponsor: [King, Angus S., Jr. \[Sen.-I-ME\]](#) Cosponsors: (6)
Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Latest Action: Senate - 10/17/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

October 16, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.5962](#)

To redesignate the Mount Evans Wilderness as the "Mount Blue Sky Wilderness", and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Neguse, Joe \[Rep.-D-CO-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)
Latest Action: 10/16/2023 Introduced in House

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3042](#)

A bill to require the collection of certain data relating to Bureau of Land Management land acquisitions, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Braun, Mike \[Sen.-R-IN\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 10/16/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.3044](#)

A bill to redesignate the Mount Evans Wilderness as the "Mount Blue Sky Wilderness," and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Hickenlooper, John W. \[Sen.-D-CO\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 10/16/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.3045](#)

A bill to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Padilla, Alex \[Sen.-D-CA\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 10/16/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.3046](#)

A bill to make permanent the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity National Forest marina fees.

Sponsor: [Padilla, Alex \[Sen.-D-CA\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 10/16/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.