

Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | October 30 - November 3, 2023

Highlights:

The House passed the *Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2024* ([H.R.4821](#)). Sponsored by Rep. Michael Simpson (R-Idaho), it is the seventh of twelve appropriations bills that must pass both chambers to avoid a government shutdown on November 17.

Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) and four cosponsors reintroduced the *Offshore Wind Jobs and Opportunity Act* ([S.3226](#)). The bill would establish an offshore wind career training grant program, in line with the Biden-Harris Administration's goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030. EESI's [Offshore Wind Energy](#) briefing highlighted employment opportunities across offshore wind planning, development, construction, installation, operations, and maintenance.

Rep. John Rutherford (R-Fla.) reintroduced the *Preserving Recreation, Oceans, Tourism, Environment, and Coastal Towns (PROTECT) Florida Act* ([H.R.6212](#)). The bipartisan bill aims to establish a moratorium on oil and gas leasing and exploration off of Florida's coasts until 2032.

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works concluded a [hearing](#) on the emerging science of extreme event attribution, or climate attribution, which identifies and studies the direct links between climate change and severe weather events.

November 3, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.6212](#)

Preserving Recreation, Oceans, Tourism, Environment, and Coastal Towns (PROTECT) Florida Act

Sponsor: [Rutherford, John H. \[Rep.-R-FL-5\]](#) Cosponsors: ([14](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/03/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.6215](#)

To prohibit Federal funds from being made available for the Justice40 Initiative or for the American Climate Corps.

Sponsor: [Good, Bob \[Rep.-R-VA-5\]](#) Cosponsors: (19)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Natural Resources; Education and the Workforce; Oversight and Accountability

Latest Action: House - 11/03/2023 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Education and the Workforce, and Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker

[H.R.6216](#)

To amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the city of North Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, to clarify the authority of the Department of Defense to conduct certain military activities at the Nevada Test and Training Range, to designate the Southern Paiute Wilderness in the State of Nevada, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Horsford, Steven \[Rep.-D-NV-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Armed Services

Latest Action: House - 11/03/2023 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

Bills Reported:

[H.R.359](#)

Fort San Gerónimo Preservation Act

Sponsor: [González-Colón, Jenniffer \[Resident Commissioner-R-PR-At Large\]](#)

Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/03/2023 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 212.

[H.R.1607](#)

To clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Schweikert, David \[Rep.-R-AZ-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/03/2023 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 213.

[H.R.1722](#)

Grand Ronde Reservation Act Amendment of 2023

Sponsor: [Salinas, Andrea \[Rep.-D-OR-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/03/2023 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 214.

Passed House:

[H.R.4821](#)

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024

Sponsor: [Simpson, Michael K. \[Rep.-R-ID-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Appropriations

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-155](#)

Latest Action: House - 11/03/2023 The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, and cross references, and to make other necessary technical and conforming corrections in the engrossment of [H.R. 4821](#).

Senate:

No climate or energy related activity in the Senate today.

November 2, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.6175](#)

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny certain green energy tax benefits to companies connected to certain countries of concern.

Sponsor: [Moolenaar, John R. \[Rep.-R-MI-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (23)

Committees: House - Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[H.R.6178](#)

To require the Secretary of Energy to develop a National Electric Vehicle Bidirectional Charging Roadmap, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Brownley, Julia \[Rep.-D-CA-26\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.6183](#)

To establish an Office of Colonias and Farmworker Initiatives within the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Cuellar, Henry \[Rep.-D-TX-28\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

[H.R.6186](#)

To amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to direct the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to conduct research and development on frost or cold weather insurance, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Franklin, C. Scott \[Rep.-R-FL-18\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

[H.R.6192](#)

To amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standard for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Lesko, Debbie \[Rep.-R-AZ-8\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[H.R.6208](#)

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to submit to Congress a report on the amount of waste collected on certain Federal land along the southern border of the United States, and for other purposes.

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

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

[H.R.6209](#)

To amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Titus, Dina \[Rep.-D-NV-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Passed House:

[H.Res.838](#)

Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4821) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Fischbach, Michelle \[Rep.-R-MN-7\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Rules

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-261](#)

Latest Action: House - 11/02/2023 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

Committee Meetings:

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a [hearing](#) entitled Member Day. Testimony was heard from Representatives Hill, Kilmer, Baird, LaLota, Ezell, Nunn of Iowa, Kim of California, Johnson of South Dakota, D'Esposito, Carter of Georgia, and Rosendale.

Other Committee Actions:

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce held a [markup](#) on [H.R. 2964](#), the "Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act" and other bills.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3201](#)

A bill to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean.

Sponsor: [Merkley, Jeff \[Sen.-D-OR\]](#) Cosponsors: (7)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 11/02/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.3206](#)

A bill to provide for a study on the accessibility of substance use disorder treatment and mental health care providers and services for farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Bennet, Michael F. \[Sen.-D-CO\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Latest Action: Senate - 11/02/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

[S.3226](#)

Offshore Wind Jobs and Opportunity Act

Sponsor: [Markey, Edward J. \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Latest Action: Senate - 11/02/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Committee Meetings:

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 118th Congress:

- Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies: Senators Heinrich (Chair), Tester, Merkley, Baldwin, Manchin, Peters, Sinema, Hoeven, McConnell, Collins, Moran, Hyde-Smith, and Fischer.
- Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development: Senators Murray (Interim Chair), Tester, Durbin, Shaheen, Merkley, Coons, Baldwin, Heinrich, Sinema,

Kennedy, McConnell, Murkowski, Graham, Hoeven, Hyde-Smith, Hagerty, and Britt.

- Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies: Senators Merkley (Chair), Reed, Tester, Van Hollen, Heinrich, Peters, Sinema, Murkowski, McConnell, Capito, Hoeven, Fischer, and Britt.

CARBON CAPTURE AND AIR CAPTURE TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine the opportunities and challenges in deploying carbon capture utilization and sequestration and direct air capture technologies on federal and non-Federal lands, after receiving testimony from Brad Crabtree, Assistant Secretary of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management; Bruno Pigott, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water, Environmental Protection Agency; Lily R. Barkau, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division Groundwater Section Manager, Cheyenne; and Erin Burns, Carbon180, Washington, D.C.

November 1, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.6127](#)

To provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Moore, Blake D. \[Rep.-R-UT-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 11/01/2023 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

[H.R.6129](#)

To require the Council on Environmental Quality to publish an annual report on environmental reviews and causes of action based on compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Yakym, Rudy \[Rep.-R-IN-2\]](#) (Introduced 11/01/2023) Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/01/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.6142

To amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to establish a last acre program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Finstad, Brad \[Rep.-R-MN-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: House - Agriculture; Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/01/2023 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

H.R.6147

To establish the Tribal Cultural Areas System, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Grijalva, Raúl M. \[Rep.-D-AZ-7\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture
Latest Action: House - 11/01/2023 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

H.R.6148

To protect Native cultural sites located on Federal land, to improve consultation with Indian Tribes, to bring parity to Indian Tribes with regard to Federal public land management laws, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Grijalva, Raúl M. \[Rep.-D-AZ-7\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture
Latest Action: House - 11/01/2023 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

H.R.6152

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: [Johnson, Dusty \[Rep.-R-SD-At Large\]](#) Cosponsors: (16)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 11/01/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.6159

To establish a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Miller-Meeks, Mariannette \[Rep.-R-IA-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 11/01/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

S.3180

A bill to establish a working waterfronts grant program.

Sponsor: [Collins, Susan M. \[Sen.-R-ME\]](#) (Introduced 11/01/2023) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 11/01/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

S.3185

A bill to establish the Tribal Cultural Areas System, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Heinrich, Martin \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Indian Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 11/01/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

S.3186

A bill to protect Native cultural sites located on Federal land, to improve consultation with Indian Tribes, to bring parity to Indian Tribes with regard to Federal public land management laws, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Heinrich, Martin \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Indian Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 11/01/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Committee Meetings:

EXTREME EVENT ATTRIBUTION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine the science of extreme event attribution, focusing on how climate change is fueling severe weather events, after receiving testimony from Michael Wehner, University of California Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Department of Energy; Jennifer Jurado, Broward County Resilient Environment Department, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and Paul M. Dabbar, Columbia University Center on Global Energy Policy and Bohr Quantum Technology, Scarsdale, New York.

AMERICA'S OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMY

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine small businesses and America's outdoor recreation economy, including [S. 1411](#), to amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, [S. 1744](#), to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, [S. 2185](#), to amend the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs, [S. 873](#), to improve recreation opportunities on, and facilitate greater access to, Federal public land, and [S. 2611](#), to require the Secretary of Agriculture to expand the snow survey and water supply forecasting program to serve the Northeastern United States, after receiving testimony from Jessica Wahl Turner, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, Washington, D.C.; Rebecca Peters, Vacation Okoboji, Arnolds Park, Iowa; Andrew Drummond, Ski The Whites, LLC, Jackson, New Hampshire; and Christopher Fox, Ducks Unlimited, Johnston, Iowa.

October 31, 2023

House:

No climate or energy related activity in the House today.

Senate:

No climate or energy related activity in the Senate today.

October 30, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.Res.822](#)

Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge.

Sponsor: [Balint, Becca \[Rep.-D-VT-At Large\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 10/30/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.Res.823](#)

Supporting the goals and ideals of "Weatherization Day".

Sponsor: [Bonamici, Suzanne \[Rep.-D-OR-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 10/30/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Senate:

No climate or energy related activity in the Senate today.