

## Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | November 11 - November 15, 2024

### Highlights:

The House passed the *Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024* ([H.R.8446](#)), which would [expand](#) the number of critical minerals and materials eligible for [clean energy tax credits](#). Rep. Juan Ciscomani (R-Ariz.) leads the bill in the House, and Sens. Kyrsten Sinema (I-Ariz.) and Mike Lee (R-Utah) introduced an identical bill ([S.5274](#)) in the Senate in September.

The House Committee on Natural Resources advanced the *Fishery Improvement to Streamline untimely regulatory Hurdles post Emergency Situation (FISHES) Act* ([H.R.5103](#)). Reps. Byron Donalds (R-Fla.) and Mary Peltola (D-Alaska) introduced the bill to [expedite](#) federal disaster relief following fishery disaster declarations. Sen. Rick Scott (R-Fla.) introduced a similar bill ([S.4262](#)) in the Senate in May.

Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.) introduced the *Half-Century Update for Water Access and Affordability (H2O UP) Act* ([H.R.10150](#)) alongside Democratic cosponsors. The *H2O UP Act* would [amend](#) the *Safe Drinking Water Act* to establish a permanent low-income drinking water assistance program within the Environmental Protection Agency. The program would also initiate data collection and reporting on water access, as well as technical assistance for community water systems.

Sen. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and Democratic cosponsors reintroduced the *Renewable Energy Certainty Act* ([S.5320](#)), which would [extend](#) the payback period within federal contracts for renewable energy and cogeneration projects to 30 years, increasing the economic viability and stability of clean energy investments.

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### November 15, 2024

#### House:

#### Bills Introduced:

##### [H.R.10134](#)

##### **Natural Disaster Resilience and Recovery Accountability Act**

Sponsor: [Higgins, Clay \[Rep.-R-LA-3\]](#) Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 11/15/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

### **H.R.10139**

#### **American Renewable Energy Act of 2024**

Sponsor: [Clarke, Yvette D. \[Rep.-D-NY-9\]](#) Cosponsors: (6)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 11/15/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

### **H.R.10140**

#### **To authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act.**

Sponsor: [Costa, Jim \[Rep.-D-CA-21\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/15/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### **H.R.10143**

#### **To direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to transfer certain amounts to the Disaster Relief Fund.**

Sponsor: [Palmer, Gary J. \[Rep.-R-AL-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (8)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 11/15/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

### **H.R.10150**

#### **Half-Century Update for Water Access and Affordability Act**

Sponsor: [Tlaib, Rashida \[Rep.-D-MI-12\]](#) Cosponsors: (21)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure; Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; Oversight and Accountability

Latest Action: House - 11/15/2024 Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

### **Senate:**

No environmental or energy related activity in the Senate today.

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**November 14, 2024**

**House:**

**Bills Introduced:**

**[H.R.10120](#)**

**To nullify certain interagency guidance related to climate-related financial risk management for large financial institutions.**

Sponsor: [Balderson, Troy \[Rep.-R-OH-12\]](#) Cosponsors: ([2](#))

Committees: House - Financial Services

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

**[H.R.10121](#)**

**Youth Climate Leadership Act of 2024**

Sponsor: [Frost, Maxwell \[Rep.-D-FL-10\]](#) Cosponsors: ([4](#))

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Natural Resources; Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

**[H.R.10130](#)**

**FEMA for America First Act of 2024**

Sponsor: [Steube, W. Gregory \[Rep.-R-FL-17\]](#) Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

**Bills Reported:**

**[H.R.5103](#)**

**FISHES Act**

Sponsor: [Donalds, Byron \[Rep.-R-FL-19\]](#) Cosponsors: ([49](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 618.

### [H.R.6107](#)

#### **Urban Canal Modernization Act**

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

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 619.

### [H.R.6843](#)

#### **To expand the boundaries of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area to include Lafourche Parish, Louisiana.**

Sponsor: [Scalise, Steve \[Rep.-R-LA-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 621.

### [H.R.7332](#)

#### **Utah State Parks Adjustment Act**

Sponsor: [Maloy, Celeste \[Rep.-R-UT-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 622.

### [H.R.8413](#)

#### **Swanson and Hugh Butler Reservoirs Land Conveyances Act**

Sponsor: [Smith, Adrian \[Rep.-R-NE-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 620.

#### **Passed House:**

### [H.R.7409](#)

#### **HEATS Act**

Sponsor: [Kim, Young \[Rep.-R-CA-40\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-722](#)

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

### [H.R.8446](#)

#### **Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024**

Sponsor: [Ciscomani, Juan \[Rep.-R-AZ-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-723](#)

Latest Action: House - 11/14/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

**Senate:**

**Bills Introduced:**

**[S.5320](#)**

**Renewable Energy Certainty Act**

Sponsor: [Welch, Peter \[Sen.-D-VT\]](#) Cosponsors: ([4](#))

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 11/14/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

**[S.5323](#)**

**UNSHACKLE Act**

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

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 11/14/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**[S.5332](#)**

**A bill to appropriate amounts to the Disaster Loans Program Account, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Tillis, Thomas \[Sen.-R-NC\]](#) Cosponsors: ([6](#))

Committees: Senate - Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Latest Action: Senate - 11/14/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

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**November 13, 2024**

**House:**

**Bills Introduced:**

**[H.R.10117](#)**

**Targeting Environmental and Climate Recklessness Act of 2024**

Sponsor: [Escobar, Veronica \[Rep.-D-TX-16\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Foreign Affairs; Judiciary; Financial Services; Oversight and Accountability; Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 11/13/2024 Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Financial Services, Oversight and Accountability, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

## **Passed House:**

### **[H.Res.1568](#)**

**Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8932) to establish an earlier application processing cycle for the FAFSA; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7409) to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8446) to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Burgess, Michael C. \[Rep.-R-TX-26\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Rules

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-732](#)

Latest Action: House - 11/13/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

## **Senate:**

## **Bills Introduced:**

### **[S.5306](#)**

**A bill to authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to significant actions that exacerbate climate change, to reinforce comprehensive efforts to limit global average temperature rise, and for other purposes.**

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

Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 11/13/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

### **[S.5313](#)**

**A bill to improve section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.**

Sponsor: [Blumenthal, Richard \[Sen.-D-CT\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 11/13/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

**[S.Res.893](#)**

**A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution's development of an international binding agreement, which is expected to be completed at its Fifth Session in Busan, Republic of Korea in December 2024.**

Sponsor: [Cardin, Benjamin L. \[Sen.-D-MD\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations

Latest Action: Senate - 11/13/2024 Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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**November 12, 2024**

**House:**

**Bills Introduced:**

**[H.R.10112](#)**

**To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to establish a system to regulate compostable agricultural packaging, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Chavez-DeRemer, Lori \[Rep.-R-OR-5\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 11/12/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

**[H.R.10113](#)**

**South Texas Agriculture Emergency Assistance Act**

Sponsor: [De La Cruz, Monica \[Rep.-R-TX-15\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 11/12/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

**[H.R.10114](#)**

**To amend the Aquifer Recharge Flexibility Act to clarify a provision relating to conveyances for aquifer recharge purposes.**

Sponsor: [Fulcher, Russ \[Rep.-R-ID-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 11/12/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### [H.J.Res.218](#)

**Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Water Heating Equipment".**

Sponsor: [Bucshon, Larry \[Rep.-R-IN-8\]](#) Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 11/12/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

### **Bills Reported:**

### [H.R.1449](#)

#### **CLEAN Act**

Sponsor: [Fulcher, Russ \[Rep.-R-ID-1\]](#) (Introduced 03/08/2023) Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-730](#)

Latest Action: House - 11/12/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 617.

### [H.Res.1568](#)

**Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8932) to establish an earlier application processing cycle for the FAFSA; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7409) to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8446) to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Burgess, Michael C. \[Rep.-R-TX-26\]](#) Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: House - Rules

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-732](#)

Latest Action: House - 11/12/2024 Placed on the House Calendar, Calendar No. 94.

### **Committee Meetings:**



## **HARNESSING ENERGY AT THERMAL SOURCES ACT; CRITICAL MINERAL CONSISTENCY ACT OF 2024; FAFSA DEADLINE ACT**

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a [hearing](#) on [H.R. 7409](#), the "Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources Act"; [H.R. 8446](#), the "Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024"; and [H.R. 8932](#), the "FAFSA Deadline Act". The Committee granted, by a record vote of 7–2, a rule providing for consideration of [H.R. 8932](#), the "FAFSA Deadline Act", [H.R. 7409](#), the "Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources Act", and [H.R. 8446](#), the "Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024". The rule provides for consideration of [H.R. 8932](#), the "FAFSA Deadline Act", under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of [H.R. 7409](#), the "Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources Act", under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of [H.R. 8446](#), the "Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024", under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Westerman, Chairman Foxx, and Representatives Scott of Virginia and Huffman.

### **Senate:**

### **Bills Introduced:**

[S.5295](#)

**A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to enter into appropriate arrangements with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to provide for a report on the health impacts of air traffic noise and pollution, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Warren, Elizabeth \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 11/12/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

### **[S.5300](#)**

**A bill to authorize the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to reimburse the Town of Chincoteague, Virginia, for costs directly associated with the removal and replacement of certain drinking water wells.**

Sponsor: [Kaine, Tim \[Sen.-D-VA\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 11/12/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## **Bills Reported:**

### **[S.3406](#)**

**Technical Corrections to the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act, Taos Pueblo Indian Water Rights Settlement Act, and Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act**

Sponsor: [Lujan, Ben Ray \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) (Introduced 12/05/2023) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Indian Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 11/12/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 554.

### **[S.4181](#)**

**Federal Emergency Mobilization Accountability (FEMA) Workforce Planning Act**

Sponsor: [Peters, Gary C. \[Sen.-D-MI\]](#) (Introduced 04/18/2024) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 11/12/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 549.

### **[S.4654](#)**

**Fire Management Assistance Grants for Tribal Governments Act**

Sponsor: [Peters, Gary C. \[Sen.-D-MI\]](#) (Introduced 07/10/2024) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Latest Action: Senate - 11/12/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 550.

**Passed Senate:**

**[S.Res.892](#)**

**A resolution designating the week beginning on October 13, 2024, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week".**

Sponsor: [Coons, Christopher A. \[Sen.-D-DE\]](#) Cosponsors: ([14](#))

Latest Action: Senate - 11/12/2024 Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR [S6531-6532](#); text: CR [S6530-6531](#))

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**November 11, 2024**

The House and Senate did not meet today.