The Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act
H.R. 3794

A balanced approach to renewable energy development on public lands

America’s public lands have extraordinary potential for renewable energy, but too often long permitting processes, a lack of local support, and environmental concerns act as roadblocks. The Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act (PLREDA) solves all three of these problems by identifying priority areas for renewable energy development and with its unique revenue structure. The priority areas have high potential for energy and low impact on wildlife and habitat. PLREDA includes a new funding stream for fish and wildlife conservation on public lands by establishing the Renewable Energy Resource Conservation Fund. The bill also directs a portion of the royalty and lease revenues from public land renewable energy projects to compensate the states and counties impacted by development. The revenue structure incentivizes clean energy projects by generating support from local communities.

Specifically, the legislation establishes a distribution formula for wind, solar, and geothermal lease revenues where:

- 25% would go to the state where projects are sited
- 25% would go to the counties where projects are sited
- 15% would fund the Interior Department to process wind and solar lease applications
- 25% would be deposited in a fund for fish, wildlife, and land conservation
- 10% would reduce the federal deficit

In addition, the bill:

- Improves interagency coordination around project permitting by establishing a national Renewable Energy Coordination Office
- Calls for increased cooperation on renewable energy initiatives between federal, state, and local authorities
- Designates a collection of employees within the Bureau of Land Management who shall be responsible for monitoring, planning, and permitting renewable energy projects on public lands to increase efficiency.
- Sets a goal for DOI to permit a total of 25 gigawatts of renewable energy on public lands by 2025.

H.R. 3794 is sponsored by Reps. Mr. Gosar of Arizona, Mr. Levin, Mr. LaMalfa, Mr. Lowenthal, Mr. Huffman of California, Mr. Tipton of Colorado, Mr. Amodei, Mr. Beyer, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Case, Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Cook, Ms. DelBene, Ms. Dingell, Mr. Gaetz, Mr. Gianforte, Ms. Haaland, Mr. Kildee, Mr. Lujan, Mr. Marshall, Ms. Matsui, Mr. Newhouse, Mr. Schweikert, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Stauber, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Titus, Ms. Torres Small, Mr. Van Drew and Mr. Young.

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Broad Support

Sportsmen, Counties, States, Conservationists

American Sportfishing Association
American Wind Energy Association
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
EDF Renewables
First Solar
Large-Scale Solar Association

National Association of Counties
Natural Resources Defense Council
NextEra Solar Energy Industries Association
Southern Company
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
Wilderness Society

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