



McMorris Rodgers Joins Growing GOP Effort To Aid Hydropower

Bill would speed up burdensome licensing of non-federal facilities

WASHINGTON, June 26, 2017 -- Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-Wash.) continues to be a leading promoter this Congress of [the significant potential for growth in hydropower](#) with the introduction of legislation that would improve burdensome licensing and relicensing for non-federal facilities.

Her *Hydropower Policy Modernization Act* aims to help the roughly 400 hydropower projects that will be up for relicensing by 2030, representing 18,000 megawatts of capacity. The bill would also clear the way for additions to domestic hydropower capacity, including generation to non-powered dams and closed-loop pumped storage.

"This is part of a growing suite of House Republican efforts to help clean, reliable hydropower," ClearPath Action Executive Director Rich Powell said.

"The bill will encourage private-sector hydropower production by creating a more reasonable licensing process that balances clean energy development with environmental concerns," ClearPath Action Policy Associate Justin Ong added.

The House Energy and Commerce's Energy Subcommittee approved the bill as a draft June 23. It was formally introduced June 24.

It may see action before the full Committee soon, along with another bill recently approved by the subcommittee sponsored by Reps. Richard Hudson (R-N.C.) and Diana DeGette (D-Colo.) [that would cut in half federal reviews of small conduit \(or energy-recovery\) hydro projects](#).

ClearPath Action is a 501(c)(4) working to create and influence conservative clean energy solutions. Find out more at clearpath.org and clearpathaction.org . Also follow us on Twitter: [@JayFaison1](https://twitter.com/JayFaison1), [@powellrich](https://twitter.com/powellrich) and [@ClearPathAction](https://twitter.com/ClearPathAction).