



H.R. 2614 – To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in certain water projects in California

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 2614 is being considered on the House floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Ken Calvert (R-CA) on June 7, 2007. The bill was sent to the House Committee on Natural Resources but was never considered.

H.R. 2614 is expected to be considered on the House floor on November 13, 2007.

** Note – Similar legislation (H.R. 1008 and H.R. 540) was introduced in the 109th Congress by Representative Ken Calvert (R-CA). H.R. 1008 was not considered and H.R. 540 passed by voice vote, but was never considered in the Senate.*

SUMMARY

H.R. 2614 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Yucaipa Valley Water District, to participate in the design, planning, and construction of projects to treat impaired surface water, reclaim and reuse impaired groundwater, and provide brine disposal within the Santa Ana Watershed.

The legislation also allows the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the City of Corona Water Utility, California, to participate in the design, planning, and construction of, and land acquisition for, a project to reclaim and reuse wastewater, including degraded groundwaters, within and outside of the service area of the City of Corona Water Utility, California.

The total cost share for the federal government cannot exceed 25 percent of the total cost.

BACKGROUND

In 1971, voters agreed to form the Yucaipa Valley County Water District. The water district is charged with maintaining methods to recycle ground water to be re-used as drinking water and for agricultural purposes. The district uses several different techniques, including membrane technology and brine disposal. Brine disposal eliminates the salt and membrane technology is used to purify water.

In 1964 the City of Corona purchased the assets of the Corona City Water Company and created a municipally owned utility. This company is charged with protecting public health by providing the highest quality water and electric service, as well as efficient disposal of wastewater.

COST

At the time of publication the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) had not yet scored the legislation.

STAFF CONTACT

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