



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

April 26, 1999

H.R. 459

**A bill to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for FERC
Project Number 9401, the Mt. Hope Waterpower Project**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Commerce on April 21, 1999

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no net effect on the federal budget. The bill does not contain any intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, and would not impose any costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The bill would extend the deadline for construction of a hydroelectric project currently subject to licensing by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) until August 3, 2002. The proposed extension is for FERC project number 9401. This provision may have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Hence, the bill's provisions would have no net budgetary impact.

Because FERC's administrative costs are limited in annual appropriations, enacting this bill would not affect direct spending or receipts. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply to the bill.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Kim Cawley. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.