

H.R. 6233, Community Reclamation Partnerships Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on December 6, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2029	2024-2034
Direct Spending (Outlays)	*	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	2	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

H.R. 6233 would authorize states with abandoned mine reclamation plans approved by the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement to enter into agreements with the federal government to reduce water pollution caused by abandoned mines through 2030. The bill also would allow individuals or groups to participate in abandoned mine cleanup projects if states assume liability on behalf of those entities. Under the bill, states and other parties conducting water treatments under those agreements would not be required to meet water quality standards under the Clean Water Act.

Additionally, H.R. 6233 would authorize individuals or groups participating in mine cleanup to sell reprocessed materials recovered during remediation work. Any reprocessing would need to be approved in the applicable abandoned mine reclamation plan and the proceeds would need to be used to pay for the costs of activities under the bill.

Spending Subject to Appropriations

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted during fiscal year 2024. Based on the costs of similar activities, CBO expects that the federal government would need two additional employees at an average annual cost of \$150,000 each to manage the agreements and approve projects. On that basis, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6233

See also

[CBO's Cost Estimates Explained](#), [CBO Describes Its Cost-Estimating Process](#), [Glossary](#)



would cost about \$2 million over the 2024-2029 period; any related spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Direct Spending

H.R. 6233 would allow the federal government to be reimbursed for its administrative costs from the proceeds of any sales of reprocessed materials from abandoned mine reclamation projects. Such reimbursements are recorded in the budget as offsetting receipts (or reductions in direct spending); under current law, those reimbursements would be available to spend without further appropriation. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6233 would have a negligible effect on net direct spending over the 2024-2034 period.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lilia Ledezma. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip L. Swagel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office