

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE PAY-AS-YOU-GO ESTIMATE

August 8, 2002

H.R. 3380

An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue right-of-way permits for natural gas pipelines within the boundary of Great Smoky Mountains National Park

As cleared by the Congress on August 1, 2002

H.R. 3380 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue right-of-way permits for natural gas pipelines within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The legislation would limit new permits to three specific sites within the park. Any permits issued under H.R. 3380 would be subject to any terms and conditions that the Secretary establishes, including requirements to protect and restore federal lands during pipeline construction.

CBO estimates that H.R. 3380 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. According to the National Park Service, the agency probably would collect fees for the right-of-way permits. Based on information from the agency, however, we estimate that any increase in offsetting receipts from such fees would total less than \$500,000 a year.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.