



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 3, 2015

S. 593

Bureau of Reclamation Transparency Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 30, 2015*

S. 593 would require the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to assess the maintenance needs of its facilities, develop a ranking system to prioritize the rehabilitation needs of facilities that it operates, and work with nonfederal partners that have taken over the operation of certain other facilities to develop similar systems for those facilities that need rehabilitation. Under current law, BOR gathers data on its facilities, analyzes the data, and makes the results of its analysis available to the Congress and the public through its budget documents and various other reports throughout the year. Under the bill, BOR would need to consolidate those results into one report every two years including the ranking information and the estimated costs of necessary rehabilitation projects. Based on information from BOR, and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost \$2 million over the 2016-2020 period.

S. 593 also would reduce the authorization level for the Central Valley Water Recycling Project in Salt Lake County, Utah, by \$2 million. Under current law, that project is authorized to receive up to \$20 million in federal funding for construction costs. Under the bill, the ceiling would be reduced to \$18 million.

On that basis, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would have an insignificant net effect on spending over the 2016-2020 period, assuming appropriation action consistent with the bill. Enacting S. 593 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 593 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. Any costs incurred by public entities to comply with the bill's reporting requirements would result from participating in a voluntary federal program.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Aurora Swanson. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.