



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 16, 2007

### **H.R. 865** **Copper Valley Native Allotment Resolution Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 7, 2007*

H.R. 865 would grant rights-of-way to the Copper Valley Electric association across certain Alaskan Native allotments for electric transmission lines owned by the association. The Secretary of the Interior would be required to appraise the allotments for fair market value, and would compensate the landholders.

Based on information from the Department of the Interior, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 865 would not have a significant effect on the federal budget. We estimate that granting rights-of-way would increase the Bureau of Land Management's administrative costs to prepare assessments of the value of the rights-of-way by less than \$500,000, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. Compensation paid to allotment holders would be paid from the Treasury's permanent Judgment Fund, and would be considered an increase in direct spending of as much as \$150,000, CBO estimates. Enacting H.R. 865 would not affect revenues.

H.R. 865 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 865 would impose a private-sector mandate as defined in UMRA on certain owners of Native allotments in Alaska. It would grant the Copper Valley Electric Association rights-of-way across 14 allotments. Based on information from government sources, CBO estimates the direct cost of complying with that mandate would be minimal compared to the annual threshold for private-sector mandates established in UMRA (\$131 million in 2007, adjusted annually for inflation).

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