

H.R. 3609, Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2019

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, Space, and Technology on July 24, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	370	574
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 3609 would authorize appropriations totaling \$574 million over the 2020-2024 period for the Department of Energy (DOE) to conduct research and development on wind energy technologies. Under the bill, those activities would focus on various aspects of such systems, including their design, materials, and performance as well as their technical and economic feasibility in different geographic locations. The bill also would direct DOE to establish an offshore wind research facility, and would allow the department to use grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to implement the programs.

Based on historical spending patterns for similar activities, and assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3609 would cost \$370 million over the 2019-2024 period and \$204 million after 2024. That estimate includes \$1 million for costs that would be incurred by the Department of the Interior (DOI) to review and approve leases for any offshore wind research facilities located in the federal Outer Continental Shelf. CBO estimates that DOI would not begin incurring costs for reviewing a lease application until 2021 because of the time needed to resolve the technical and legal issues associated with developing offshore test facilities.

The costs of the legislation (detailed in Table 1) fall within budget functions 270 (energy) and 300 (natural resources and the environment).

**Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 3609**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2019-2024	2019-2029
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029		
DOE Wind Energy R&D													
Authorization	0	104	109	114	120	126	0	0	0	0	0	573	573
Estimated Outlays	0	21	53	81	101	113	96	61	31	12	4	369	573
Department of the Interior Offshore Lease Administration													
Estimated Authorization	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Estimated Outlays	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total Changes	0	104	110	114	120	126	0	0	0	0	0	574	574
Estimated Authorization		21	54	81	101	113	96	61	31	12	4	370	574

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Kathleen Gramp. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.