

H.R. 3415, Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 26, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2028	2024-2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	*	*	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	*	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	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 2034?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

H.R. 3415 would require the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to negotiate an agreement within two years with the Midvale Irrigation District located in Pavillion, Wyoming, to convey the Pilot Butte Power Plant and related facilities to the district.

Under current law, BOR holds title to the power plant and related facilities, and ownership of the power plant cannot be transferred unless authorized by the Congress. The plant has not produced electricity since 2008 when BOR determined that increasing operation and maintenance costs made electricity generation at the plant economically infeasible. The district has expressed interest in taking ownership and rehabilitating and operating the power plant and related facilities to provide power to the district's water users.

Using information from BOR, CBO estimates that total costs to implement the bill would be less than \$20,000 for staff to coordinate surveys, complete reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act, and transfer the title to the district. Under the bill, those costs would be split equally with the district. Spending by BOR for those costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

CBO estimates that enacting the bill would insignificantly increase offsetting receipts, which are recorded as reductions in direct spending, from amounts transferred to the government to

See also

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



pay for the district's share of the cost of administrative activities to complete the transfer. The spending of those receipts would increase direct spending and any excess contributions would be returned to the district. Thus, CBO estimates that by the end of 2033 there would be no net effect on direct spending under H.R. 3415.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Aurora Swanson. 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 flourish at the end.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office