

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6640

To optimize the environmental review process for Central Valley Project permits, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2025

Mr. GRAY (for himself and Mr. COSTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To optimize the environmental review process for Central Valley Project permits, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Build Now Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL RE-**
6 **VIEW TIMELINE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
8 sion of law, if a federally issued permit for a CVP en-
9 hancement project requires an environmental review, the
10 environmental review shall be completed not later than 1

1 year after the date on which the permit application is sub-
2 mitted by the permit applicant.

3 (b) FAILURE TO MEET DEADLINE.—If the agency
4 responsible for carrying out an environmental review de-
5 scribed in subsection (a) is unable to meet the timeline
6 under that subsection, the head of the agency issuing the
7 applicable permit shall—

8 (1) with the approval of the permit applicant,
9 grant an extension for the environmental review; or

10 (2) deny the permit.

11 (c) ACTION AFTER DENIAL.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—An applicant for a permit
13 that is denied due to a failure to meet the timeline
14 under this section may re-apply for the permit at
15 any time after the denial is issued.

16 (2) LEAD AGENCY.—If an applicant re-applies
17 for a permit under paragraph (1), the head of the
18 agency responsible for carrying out the environ-
19 mental review required under the previous applica-
20 tion shall furnish to the applicant, to the extent per-
21 mitted by law, any information gathered as part of,
22 or related to, such environmental review to facilitate
23 an expedited environmental review for the new appli-
24 cation.

25 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

1 (1) CVP ENHANCEMENT PROJECT.—The term
2 “CVP enhancement project” means a project with a
3 primary purpose of supporting, enhancing, or main-
4 taining the Central Valley Project and related infra-
5 structure, including—

6 (A) groundwater recharge projects;

7 (B) aquifer storage projects; and

8 (C) water source substitution projects.

9 (2) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—The term “en-
10 vironmental review” means fulfilling the require-
11 ments applicable to a CVP enhancement project per-
12 mit under the National Environmental Policy Act of
13 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4331 et seq.) and section 7 of the
14 Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536).

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