

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1584

To prohibit Federal agencies from considering, in taking any action, the social cost of carbon, the social cost of methane, the social cost of nitrous oxide, or the social cost of any other greenhouse gas, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 1, 2025

Mr. LANKFORD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit Federal agencies from considering, in taking any action, the social cost of carbon, the social cost of methane, the social cost of nitrous oxide, or the social cost of any other greenhouse gas, 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 “Transparency and
5 Honesty in Energy Regulations Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term “Federal
2 agency” has the meaning given the term “agency”
3 in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

4 (2) SOCIAL COST OF CARBON.—The term “so-
5 cial cost of carbon” means—

6 (A) the estimate of the social cost of car-
7 bon described in—

8 (i) the document of the Interagency
9 Working Group on Social Cost of Carbon,
10 United States Government, entitled “Tech-
11 nical Support Document: Social Cost of
12 Carbon for Regulatory Impact Analysis
13 Under Executive Order 12866” and dated
14 February 2010;

15 (ii) the document of the Interagency
16 Working Group on Social Cost of Green-
17 house Gases, United States Government,
18 entitled “Technical Support Document: So-
19 cial Cost of Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous
20 Oxide Interim Estimates under Executive
21 Order 13990” and dated February 2021;

22 (iii) the document of the Interagency
23 Working Group on Social Cost of Green-
24 house Gases, United States Government,
25 entitled “Technical Support Document:

1 Technical Update of the Social Cost of
2 Carbon for Regulatory Impact Analysis
3 Under Executive Order 12866”, dated
4 May 2013, revised in November 2013 and
5 July 2015, and published and revised in
6 August 2016;

7 (iv) the document of the Environ-
8 mental Protection Agency entitled “Regu-
9 latory Impact Analysis for the New Source
10 Performance Standards for Greenhouse
11 Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and
12 Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric
13 Generating Units; Emission Guidelines for
14 Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing
15 Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating
16 Units; and Repeal of the Affordable Clean
17 Energy Rule” and dated April 2024;

18 (v) the document of the Environ-
19 mental Protection Agency entitled “Regu-
20 latory Impact Analysis for the Final Fed-
21 eral Good Neighbor Plan Addressing Re-
22 gional Ozone Transport for the 2015
23 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality
24 Standard” and dated March 2023;

(vi) the document of the Environmental Protection Agency entitled “Regulatory Impact Analysis for the Final National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units Review of the Residual Risk and Technology Review” and dated April 2024;

(vii) the document of the Environmental Protection Agency entitled “Benefit and Cost Analysis for Supplemental Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Steam Electric Power Generating Point Source Category” and dated April 18, 2024; or

(viii) any successor or substantially related document; and

(B) any other estimate of the monetized damages associated with an incremental increase in carbon dioxide emissions in a given year.

(3) SOCIAL COST OF GREENHOUSE GASES.—

The term “social cost of greenhouse gases” means—

(A) the estimate of the social cost of any greenhouse gas that is described in—

1 (i) the document of the Interagency
2 Working Group on Social Cost of Carbon,
3 United States Government, entitled “Tech-
4 nical Support Document: Social Cost of
5 Carbon for Regulatory Impact Analysis
6 Under Executive Order 12866” and dated
7 February 2010;

8 (ii) the document of the Interagency
9 Working Group on Social Cost of Green-
10 house Gases, United States Government,
11 entitled “Technical Support Document:
12 Technical Update of the Social Cost of
13 Carbon for Regulatory Impact Analysis
14 Under Executive Order 12866”, dated
15 May 2013, revised in November 2013 and
16 July 2015, and published and revised in
17 August 2016;

18 (iii) the document of the Interagency
19 Working Group on Social Cost of Green-
20 house Gases, United States Government,
21 entitled “Addendum to Technical Support
22 Document on Social Cost of Carbon for
23 Regulatory Impact Analysis under Execu-
24 tive Order 12866: Application of the Meth-
25 odology to Estimate the Social Cost of

Methane and the Social Cost of Nitrous
Oxide” and dated August 2016;

(iv) the document of the Interagency
Working Group on Social Cost of Green-
house Gases, United States Government,
entitled “Technical Support Document: So-
cial Cost of Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous
Oxide Interim Estimates under Executive
Order 13990” and dated February 2021;

or

(v) any successor or substantially re-
lated document; and

(B) any other estimate of the monetized
damages associated with an incremental in-
crease in greenhouse gas emissions in a given
year.

(4) SOCIAL COST OF METHANE.—The term “so-
cial cost of methane” means—

(A) the estimate of the social cost of meth-
ane described in—

(i) the document of the Interagency
Working Group on Social Cost of Green-
house Gases, United States Government,
entitled “Addendum to Technical Support
Document on Social Cost of Carbon for

1 Regulatory Impact Analysis under Execu-
2 tive Order 12866: Application of the Meth-
3 odology to Estimate the Social Cost of
4 Methane and the Social Cost of Nitrous
5 Oxide” and dated August 2016;

6 (ii) the document of the Interagency
7 Working Group on Social Cost of Green-
8 house Gases, United States Government,
9 entitled “Technical Support Document: So-
10 cial Cost of Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous
11 Oxide Interim Estimates under Executive
12 Order 13990” and dated February 2021;

13 (iii) the document of the Environ-
14 mental Protection Agency entitled “Benefit
15 and Cost Analysis for Supplemental Efflu-
16 ent Limitations Guidelines and Standards
17 for the Steam Electric Power Generating
18 Point Source Category” and dated April
19 18, 2024; or

20 (iv) any successor or substantially re-
21 lated document; and

22 (B) any other estimate of the monetized
23 damages associated with an incremental in-
24 crease in methane emissions in a given year.

1 (5) SOCIAL COST OF NITROUS OXIDE.—The
2 term “social cost of nitrous oxide” means—

3 (A) the estimate of the social cost of ni-
4 trous oxide described in—

5 (i) the document of the Interagency
6 Working Group on Social Cost of Carbon,
7 United States Government, entitled “Ad-
8 dendum to Technical Support Document
9 on Social Cost of Carbon for Regulatory
10 Impact Analysis under Executive Order
11 12866: Application of the Methodology to
12 Estimate the Social Cost of Methane and
13 the Social Cost of Nitrous Oxide” and
14 dated August 2016;

15 (ii) the document of the Interagency
16 Working Group on Social Cost of Carbon,
17 United States Government, entitled “Tech-
18 nical Support Document: Social Cost of
19 Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous Oxide In-
20 terim Estimates under Executive Order
21 13990” and dated February 2021; or

22 (iii) any other successor or substan-
23 tially related document; and

24 (B) any other estimate of the monetized
25 damages associated with an incremental in-

1 crease in nitrous oxide emissions in a given
2 year.

3 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON CONSIDERING THE SOCIAL COST**
4 **OF GREENHOUSE GASES, INCLUDING THE SO-**
5 **CIAL COST OF CARBON, THE SOCIAL COST OF**
6 **METHANE, AND THE SOCIAL COST OF NI-**
7 **TROUS OXIDE.**

8 The head of a Federal agency may not consider the
9 social cost of carbon, the social cost of methane, the social
10 cost of nitrous oxide, or the social cost of greenhouse
11 gases—

12 (1) as part of any cost-benefit or cost-effective-
13 ness analysis required under—

14 (A) any law;

15 (B) Executive Order 12866 (5 U.S.C. 601
16 note; relating to regulatory planning and re-
17 view); or

18 (C) Executive Order 13563 (5 U.S.C. 601
19 note; relating to improving regulation and regu-
20 latory review);

21 (2) in any rulemaking;

22 (3) in the issuance of any guidance;

23 (4) in taking any other agency action; or

24 (5) as a justification for any rulemaking, guid-
25 ance document, or agency action.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

2 Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, the head of each Federal agency shall submit
4 to the Committees on Environment and Public Works and
5 Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the
6 Committees on Energy and Commerce and Natural Re-
7 sources of the House of Representatives a report describ-
8 ing the number of proposed and final rulemakings, guid-
9 ance documents, and agency actions that, since January
10 2009, have used the social cost of carbon, the social cost
11 of greenhouse gases, the social cost of methane, or the
12 social cost of nitrous oxide, including the use of the social
13 cost of carbon, the social cost of greenhouse gases, the
14 social cost of methane, or the social cost of nitrous oxide
15 as part of any cost-benefit analysis required under Execu-
16 tive Order 12866 (5 U.S.C. 601 note; relating to regu-
17 latory planning and review) or other relevant authority.

18 **SEC. 5. PRIORITIZING ACCURACY IN ENVIRONMENTAL**
19 **ANALYSES.**

20 (a) LIMITATION ON PERMITTING AND REGULA-
21 TION.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out any permit-
23 ting adjudication or regulatory process—

24 (A) the head of each Federal agency shall,
25 in taking into account any environmental con-
26 siderations, only use such environmental consid-

1 erations as are explicitly required under an Act
2 of Congress; and

3 (B) the use of any environmental consider-
4 ation not described in subparagraph (A) is pro-
5 hibited.

6 (2) USE OF ROBUST METHODOLOGIES.—In car-
7 rying out paragraph (1), the head of a Federal agen-
8 cy, in the determination of the head of that Federal
9 agency—

10 (A) shall strictly use the most robust
11 methodology of assessment available; and

12 (B) shall not use any methodology that is
13 arbitrary or ideologically motivated.

14 (b) REGULATORY ANALYSIS.—The head of each Fed-
15 eral agency shall—

16 (1) ensure that any estimates to assess the
17 value of changes in greenhouse gas emissions result-
18 ing from the actions of that Federal agency, includ-
19 ing with respect to the consideration of domestic
20 versus international effects and evaluating appro-
21 priate discount rates, are, to the extent permitted by
22 law, consistent with the guidance contained in Office
23 of Management and Budget Circular A–4, dated
24 September 17, 2003; and

1 (2) as appropriate and consistent with applica-
2 ble law, initiate a process to make such changes to
3 any rule, regulation, policy, or action of the Federal
4 agency as may be necessary to ensure consistency
5 with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-
6 4, dated September 17, 2003.

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