

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2072

To require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the time period during which licensees are required to commence construction of certain hydropower projects.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2025

Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BAUMGARTNER, and Mr. FIELDS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the time period during which licensees are required to commence construction of certain hydropower projects.

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. EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMMENCE CON-**  
4 **STRUCTION OF CERTAIN HYDROPOWER**  
5 **PROJECTS.**

6 (a) DEFINITION OF COVERED PROJECT.—In this sec-  
7 tion, the term “covered project” means a hydropower

1 project with respect to which the Federal Energy Regu-  
2 latory Commission issued a license before March 13, 2020.

3 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF EXTENSION.—Notwith-  
4 standing section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C.  
5 806), on the request of a licensee of a covered project,  
6 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may, after  
7 reasonable notice and for good cause shown, extend in ac-  
8 cordance with subsection (c) the period during which the  
9 licensee is required to commence construction of the cov-  
10 ered project for not more than an additional 6 years be-  
11 yond the 8 years authorized by that section.

12 (c) PERIOD OF EXTENSION.—An extension of time  
13 to commence construction of a covered project under sub-  
14 section (b) shall—

15 (1) consist of not more than 3 consecutive 2-  
16 year periods;

17 (2) begin on the date on which the final exten-  
18 sion of the period for commencement of construction  
19 granted to the licensee under section 13 of the Fed-  
20 eral Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) expires; and

21 (3) end on the date that is not more than 6  
22 years after the latest date to which the Federal En-  
23 ergy Regulatory Commission is authorized to extend  
24 the period for commencement of construction under  
25 that section.

1       (d) REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSE.—If the  
2 time period required under section 13 of the Federal  
3 Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) to commence construction of  
4 a covered project expires after December 31, 2023, and  
5 before the date of enactment of this Act—

6           (1) the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
7 may reinstate the license for the applicable project  
8 effective as of the date of expiration of the license;  
9 and

10          (2) the extension authorized under subsection  
11 (b) shall take effect on the date of that expiration.

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