

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2019

To provide for a smart water resource management pilot program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2019

Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To provide for a smart water resource management pilot program.

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 “Smart Energy and
5 Water Efficiency Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PILOT**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
10 ty” means—

11 (A) a utility;

- 1 (B) a municipality;
2 (C) a water district; and
3 (D) any other authority that provides
4 water, wastewater, or water reuse services.

5 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of Energy.

7 (3) SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY
8 PILOT PROGRAM.—The term “smart energy and
9 water efficiency pilot program” or “pilot program”
10 means the pilot program established under sub-
11 section (b).

12 (b) SMART ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PILOT
13 PROGRAM.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
15 and carry out a smart energy and water efficiency
16 management pilot program in accordance with this
17 section.

18 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the smart en-
19 ergy and water efficiency pilot program is to award
20 grants to eligible entities to demonstrate advanced
21 and innovative technology-based solutions that will—

22 (A) increase and improve the energy effi-
23 ciency of water, wastewater, and water reuse
24 systems to help communities across the United

1 States make significant progress in conserving
2 water, saving energy, and reducing costs;

3 (B) support the implementation of innova-
4 tive processes and the installation of advanced
5 automated systems that provide real-time data
6 on energy and water; and

7 (C) improve energy and water conserva-
8 tion, water quality, and predictive maintenance
9 of energy and water systems, through the use
10 of internet-connected technologies, including
11 sensors, intelligent gateways, and security em-
12 bedded in hardware.

13 (3) PROJECT SELECTION.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
15 make competitive, merit-reviewed grants under
16 the pilot program to not less than 3, but not
17 more than 5, eligible entities.

18 (B) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting an
19 eligible entity to receive a grant under the pilot
20 program, the Secretary shall consider—

21 (i) energy and cost savings anticipated
22 to result from the project;

23 (ii) the innovative nature, commercial
24 viability, and reliability of the technology
25 to be used;

1 (iii) the degree to which the project
2 integrates next-generation sensors, soft-
3 ware, hardware, analytics, and manage-
4 ment tools;

5 (iv) the anticipated cost-effectiveness
6 of the pilot project in terms of energy effi-
7 ciency savings, water savings or reuse, and
8 infrastructure costs averted;

9 (v) whether the technology can be de-
10 ployed in a variety of geographic regions
11 and the degree to which the technology can
12 be implemented on a smaller or larger
13 scale, including whether the technology can
14 be implemented by each type of eligible en-
15 tity;

16 (vi) whether the technology has been
17 successfully deployed elsewhere;

18 (vii) whether the technology is sourced
19 from a manufacturer based in the United
20 States; and

21 (viii) whether the project will be com-
22 pleted in 5 years or less.

23 (C) APPLICATIONS.—

24 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause

25 (ii), an eligible entity seeking a grant

1 under the pilot program shall submit to
2 the Secretary an application at such time,
3 in such manner, and containing such infor-
4 mation as the Secretary determines to be
5 necessary.

6 (ii) CONTENTS.—An application under
7 clause (i) shall, at a minimum, include—

8 (I) a description of the project;

9 (II) a description of the tech-
10 nology to be used in the project;

11 (III) the anticipated results, in-
12 cluding energy and water savings, of
13 the project;

14 (IV) a comprehensive budget for
15 the project; and

16 (V) the number of households or
17 customers to be served by the project.

18 (4) ADMINISTRATION.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 300
20 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
21 the Secretary shall select grant recipients under
22 this section.

23 (B) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall
24 annually for 5 years carry out an evaluation of

1 each project for which a grant is provided
2 under this section that—

3 (i) evaluates the progress and impact
4 of the project; and

5 (ii) assesses the degree to which the
6 project is meeting the goals of the pilot
7 program.

8 (C) TECHNICAL AND POLICY ASSIST-
9 ANCE.—On the request of a grant recipient, the
10 Secretary shall provide technical and policy as-
11 sistance to the grant recipient to carry out the
12 project.

13 (D) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary
14 shall make available to the public—

15 (i) a copy of each evaluation carried
16 out under subparagraph (B); and

17 (ii) a description of any best practices
18 identified by the Secretary as a result of
19 those evaluations.

20 (E) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later
21 than 5 years after the establishment of the pro-
22 gram, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a
23 report containing the results of each evaluation
24 carried out under subparagraph (B).

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated \$15,000,000 to carry out
3 this section, to remain available until expended.

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