



FY 2024 House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill

Overview

The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies appropriations bill funds civil works projects of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE); the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and Central Utah Project (CUP); the Department of Energy (DOE); the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC); the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC); and several other independent agencies, including the newly created Great Lakes Authority.

Funding Levels

Overall

The House Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill approved by the Appropriations Committee on Thursday, June 22, provides \$57.958 billion in discretionary spending, \$1.963 billion below the FY24 President's Budget Request. The bill was approved without support from Democratic members on the Committee.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The bill provides \$9.57 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers, which is \$910 million above the FY23 enacted program level.

Department of the Interior

The bill provides \$1.863 billion, which is \$91 million below the FY23 enacted level.

Department of Energy

The bill provides \$48.879 billion for the Department of Energy, which is \$133.2 million above the FY23 enacted program level and \$3.693 billion below the President's Budget Request.

Key Great Lakes Provisions

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- \$2.771 billion for the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund;
- \$3 million for the continuation of the Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study;
- \$200,000 for Interbasin Control of Great Lakes – Mississippi River Aquatic Nuisance Species;
- \$257.4 million for the construction of a new Soo Lock in Sault Saint Marie, MI; and
- \$13.8 million to operate the electric fish barrier at the Chicago Sanitary Sewer Canal.





Invasive Carp

Report language is included to remind the Army Corps that the Brandon Road Lock and Dam project and the electric fish barriers at the Chicago Sanitary Sewer Canal are critical to preventing the spread of invasive carp into the Great Lakes. Because these efforts are critical to keeping invasive carp out of the Chicago Area Waterways System, the Corps is urged to expedite efforts to execute a project partnership agreement for Brandon Road to enable the project to move into construction utilizing previously provided funds. If additional work can be done, the Corps is reminded that both projects are eligible to compete for the additional funds provided by Congress, and the Corps is encouraged to include appropriate funding for projects in future budget submissions.



In addition, the Corps is directed to continue to collaborate at levels commensurate with previous years with the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the State of Illinois, and members of the Invasive Carp Regional Coordinating Committee, including identifying navigation protocols that would be beneficial or effective in reducing the risk of vessels inadvertently carrying aquatic invasive species, including invasive carp, through the Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet, Illinois.

The Corps is also directed to implement navigation protocols that effectively reduce the risk of entrainment without jeopardizing the safety of vessels and crews.

Great Lakes Authority (GLA)

The bill includes \$5 million for GLA. The GLA, as authorized in Public Law 117–328, was established as a federal-state partnership intended to provide assistance in the areas of the watershed of the Great Lakes and the Great Lakes System. The GLA region includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.