

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-8150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

Memorandum

To: Senator Jeff Bingaman
From: Robert M. Simon, Staff Director
Subject: Areas of Common Ground Between Republican and Democratic Energy Policy Bills
Date: June 20, 2001

This analysis attempts to lay out the current apparent areas of agreement between Democratic and Republican energy policy bills. It does not address the areas of agreement between Democratic and Republican energy tax incentive bills (S.389 and S.596). The following provisions of S.388 (Murkowski and others) are identical or similar to provisions in S.352 (Bingaman and others) and S.597 (Bingaman and others).

Section 103. Strategic Petroleum Reserve Study and Report.

Similar in intent to section 308 of S.597. Section 308 study requirements are more specific and relate specifically to drawdowns of the SPR.

Section 104. Study of Existing Rights-of-Way.

Similar to section 304 of S.597, except that section 304 applies only to rights-of-way owned by Power Marketing Administrations and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Section 108. Study and Report on Status of Domestic Refining Industry.

Section 108(c)(6) is substantially the same as the fuel specifications study in section 306 of S.597.

Section 109. Review of FERC Natural Gas Pipeline Certification Procedures.

Identical to section 305(a) of S.597.

Section 111. Study of Financing for New Technologies.

Identical to section 307 of S.597.

Section 112. Review of Regulations to Eliminate Barriers to Emerging Energy Technology.

Substantially similar to section 301 of S.597. Section 301 report is more comprehensive in its scope.

Section 113. Interagency Agreement on Environmental Review of Interstate Natural Gas Pipeline Projects.

Substantially similar to sections 305(b), (c), and (d) of S.597. In S.597, the interagency task force is headed by the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, as opposed to the Secretary of Energy in S.388.

Section 114. Pipeline Integrity, Safety, and Reliability R&D.

Substantially similar to sections 1101-1103 of S.597. Section 1101(d) of S.597 (designation of points of contact within DOT and DOE) is missing from section 114 of S.388. There is also more specificity on sources of appropriations for DOT in section 1103 of S.597.

Section 115. Research and Development for New Natural Gas Technologies.

These authorization levels are compatible with the broader authorization in section 1404 of S.597.

Section 202. Advanced Coal Technology Cost and Performance Goals.

Identical to section 811 of S.597.

Section 203. Study.

Identical to section 812 of S.597.

Section 204. Technology Research and Development Program.

Substantially similar to section 813 of S.597. The R&D authorities invoked under section 813 are broader than the list in section 204.

Section 205. Authorization of Appropriations.

Identical to section 814 of S.597.

Section 206. Power Plant Improvement Initiative.

Substantially similar (slight drafting differences) to section 821 of S.597.

Section 207. Financial Assistance.

Substantially similar to section 822 of S.597, except that the New Source Review exemption in section 207(e) is not found in S.597.

Section 208. Funding.

This section is a general authorization of appropriations, which is inherent in the previous sections. Section 823 of S.597 makes funds deobligated from other Clean Coal Technology projects available, in addition to appropriated funds.

Sections 401-409. Price-Anderson Reauthorization.

Identical to Title IX of S.597.

Sections 410-412. DOE Nuclear Energy R&D Funding.

These authorization levels are compatible with the broader authorization in section 1405 of S.597.

Section 601. Extension of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Generally consistent with section 3(a) of S.352.

Section 602. Energy Efficient Schools Programs.

Substantially similar to section 1302 of S.597. In S.597, the program is administered by the Secretary of Education, while in S.388, the program is administered by the Secretary of Energy.

Section 603. Amendments to Weatherization Assistance Program.

Different increased authorizations are given in section 3(b) of S.352.

Section 604. Amendments to State Energy Programs.

Different increased authorizations are given in section 3(c) of S.352, compared to section 604(c).

Section 605. Enhancement and Extension of Authorities Relating to Federal Energy Savings Performance Contracts.

Section 605(a) is substantially similar to sections 7(a) and 7(b) of S.352, except that the latter subsections include water conservation.

Section 605(b) is identical to section 5 of S.352.

Section 605(c) is a 5-year extension of the program, whereas section 6 of S.352 is a permanent extension.

Section 606. Federal Energy Efficiency Requirement.

This section requires Federal agencies to become more energy efficient. A provision with a similar intent is in section 4 of S.352.

Section 607. Energy Efficiency Science Initiative.

The authorization in this section is consistent with the broader authorization in section 1402 of S.597.

Section 701. Exception to HOV Passenger Requirements for Alternative Fuel Vehicles.

Identical to section 1203 of S.597.

Section 704. Federal Fleet Fuel Economy and Use of Alternative Fuels.

Section 704(b), which seeks to expand use of alternative fuels in federal vehicles, has a similar goal to section 1202 of S.597.

Section 711. Assessment of Renewable Energy Resources.

Identical to section 601 of S.597.

Section 721-726. Hydroelectric Licensing Reform.

Different provisions with a similar intent to streamline aspects of hydroelectric licensing can be found in section 701-703 of S.597.

Sections 801-802. Electric Energy Transmission Reliability.

Identical to sections 401-402 of S.597.