

# *House Appropriations Committee*

*Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen*

Website address: <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

## **Fiscal Year 2018 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill**

*Advancing national security, safeguarding U.S. nuclear weapons, and improving critical infrastructure are funding priorities*

The fiscal year 2018 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations bill provides annual funding for national defense nuclear weapons activities, the Army Corps of Engineers, various programs under the Department of Energy (DOE), and other related agencies.

The bill totals \$43.2 billion – \$5.4 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. Funding within the bill is prioritized on national security efforts – including nuclear weapons activities. It also contains significant increases in energy and water resources infrastructure investments, and programs that encourage energy independence and economic competitiveness.

**Nuclear Security** – To address our national security needs and meet emerging threats from around the globe, the bill provides a total of \$14.7 billion for DOE’s nuclear weapons security programs, including Weapons Activities, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, and Naval Reactors – a \$1.7 billion increase above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. This funding will uphold the nation’s nuclear deterrence posture, maintain the safety and readiness of our weapons stockpile, and allow the U.S. to meet any nuclear threat. This includes:

- \$10.6 billion for Weapons Activities – \$1.4 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level – to maintain a strong nuclear deterrence posture and address aging infrastructure;
- \$1.6 billion for Naval Nuclear Reactors – \$200 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level – including funds for the Columbia-Class Ballistic Missile Submarine and for the nuclear spent fuel infrastructure needed to defuel the Navy’s aircraft carriers; and
- \$2 billion for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation – \$116 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

**Energy Infrastructure Security** – The bill makes targeted investments to protect our nation’s energy infrastructure against cyber and other attacks. Within this funding, \$248 million – \$18 million above the fiscal year 2017 level – is for research and development activities to strengthen the security of our electric grid.

**Army Corps of Engineers** – The Army Corps of Engineers is funded at \$6.83 billion, an increase of \$789 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level, which will provide a much needed influx of funds into the nation’s water resources infrastructure. The bill focuses funding on activities that will have an immediate impact on public safety, job creation, and economic growth, including those that help increase the functionality of our ports and waterways. For example, the bill provides:

- \$3 billion for navigation projects and studies, including \$1.4 billion in funding from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund and full use of estimated annual revenues plus additional balances

from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, to help advance American competitiveness and export ability; and

- \$1.9 billion to support public health and safety by funding flood and storm damage reduction activities, an increase of \$215 million above fiscal year 2017 and \$577 million above the budget request.

**Environmental Cleanup** – Included in the legislation is \$7.1 billion for environmental management activities, \$706 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. This includes \$6 billion for Defense Environmental Cleanup to safely clean sites contaminated by previous nuclear weapons production at Hanford, Savannah River, Oak Ridge, Idaho, and other DOE sites.

**Energy Programs** – Funding for energy programs within DOE is \$12.9 billion – an increase of \$1.6 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. Within this total, the bill prioritizes early-stage research and development funding for the applied energy programs. Funding within the accounts is targeted to encourage U.S. economic competitiveness and help advance the nation’s goal of an “all-of-the-above” solution to energy independence.

Research and development to advance coal, natural gas, oil, and other fossil energy technologies, which will help the country make greater use of our rich natural energy resources and help keep down energy costs, are funded at \$727 million – an increase of \$59 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

In addition, to promote innovation and growth in nuclear energy, research, development, and demonstration activities are funded at \$1.2 billion – \$188 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

**Science Research** – The bill includes \$6.26 billion for science research – an increase of \$868 million above the 2017 enacted level. This funding supports basic energy research, the development of high-performance computing systems, and research into the next generation of energy sources. These investments lay the groundwork for a more secure energy future, helping to reduce the nation’s dependence on foreign oil and ensuring continued economic growth.

**Bureau of Reclamation** – The legislation contains \$1.48 billion – \$163 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level – for the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation to help manage, develop, and protect the water resources of Western states. The bill includes \$134 million for water storage projects authorized in the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act.

**Other policy items:**

- The bill restricts the application of the Clean Water Act in certain agricultural areas, including farm ponds and irrigation ditches.
- The bill includes language prohibiting new nuclear nonproliferation projects in Russia without certain notifications from the Secretary of Energy.

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