

HOUSE BILL NO. 861

INTRODUCED BY HURWITZ, R. MANNING, SEVERSON, CONROY

IN THE HOUSE

March 28, 1981	Introduced and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.
March 30, 1981	On motion rules suspended and bill allowed to be transmitted on the 75th legislative day.
April 3, 1981	Committee recommend bill do pass as amended. Report adopted.
April 4, 1981	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
	Transmittal date extended to the 76th legislative day.
April 6, 1981	Second reading, do pass.
	On motion rules suspended and bill placed on third reading this day.
	Third reading, passed. Ayes, 95; Noes, 0. Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

April 7, 1981	By motion and consent bill allowed to be received and considered this session.
	Introduced and referred to Committee on Finance and Claims.
April 15, 1981	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.

April 17, 1981

Second reading, concurred in.

On motion rules suspended. Bill placed on calendar for third reading this day.

Third reading, concurred in.
Ayes, 50; Noes, 0.

IN THE HOUSE

April 20, 1981

Returned from Senate. Concurred in. Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

HOUSE BILL NO. 861

INTRODUCED BY

Heavitt Manning *Seamus Conway*

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ANALYSIS OF THE FEASIBILITY OF GENERATING HYDROELECTRIC POWER AT OFF-STREAM SITES IN THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN; AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR SUCH PURPOSE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Purpose. The purposes of this act are to:

(1) demonstrate that the drainage system of the Yellowstone River can develop substantial supplies of clean hydroelectric power without disrupting the agricultural and other values associated with a free-flowing main stem of the river;

(2) demonstrate that off-stream hydroelectric capacity could be investigated within the framework of existing environmental protection statutes and could be implemented within the framework of and to the benefit of existing water rights and reservations; and

(3) direct consideration of, but not to decide at this time, how electricity so generated could be marketed.

Section 2. Duties of department. The department of natural resources and conservation shall, prior to January 1, 1983:

(1) formulate an overall project concept of one or more demonstrations involving the diversion, storage, and gravity-flow routing of annual peak period streamflows within the Yellowstone River Basin, with such routings culminating in hydroelectric installations and return of the waters to the streams;

(2) conduct preliminary environmental reviews of one or more sites for potential demonstration projects, to serve as baseline material for full-scale environmental impact analysis of such demonstration projects as may be selected for further funding or construction by future sessions of the legislature;

(3) conduct preliminary economic reviews of one or more such sites, evaluating alternate routes, capacities, and facilities with cost estimates suitable for formulating final design and construction budgets and analyzing cost-benefit ratios;

(4) analyze any licensing requirements that may be imposed by federal law; and

(5) consider, without recommendation and after consultation with public utilities and cooperatives that distribute electricity within the basin, various means by which hydroelectric power generated at such demonstration projects could be sold.

Section 3. Administration of act. The department may

LC 1528/01

1 not increase its number of full-time equivalent employees
2 for the purpose of carrying out this act unless the governor
3 finds that adequate contracted services from the private
4 sector are unavailable within the amounts appropriated by
5 this act. The department is authorized to contract for such
6 professional services as are needed to carry out this act.

7 Section 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated from
8 the interest income of the resource indemnity trust fund to
9 the department of natural resources and conservation the sum
10 of \$350,000 for the purpose of implementing sections 1
11 through 3.

-End-

Approved by Committee
on Natural Resources

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9 FROM THE RENEWABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCE FUND
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23 Section 2. Duties of department. The department of
24 natural resources and conservation shall, prior to January
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2 more demonstrations involving the diversion, storage, and
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4 within the Yellowstone River Basin, with such routings
5 culminating in hydroelectric installations and return of the
6 waters to the streams;

7 (2) conduct preliminary environmental reviews of one
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