



BILL SUMMARY: Energy and Water Development Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Bill

Bill rejects steep cuts Trump and House Republicans pushed for—including to a key program that lowers families' energy bills, which Trump sought to eliminate

Washington, D.C. – The Fiscal Year 2026 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act provides \$63.3 billion in total funding for the Department of Energy, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and independent agencies.

Key Points & Highlights – Corps of Engineers

Corps of Engineers: The bill provides \$10.435 billion in total funding for the Corps of Engineers, \$1.75 billion above fiscal year 2025 enacted and \$3.8 billion above President Trump's request. Importantly—unlike Republicans' yearlong continuing resolution for fiscal year 2025 that was signed into law—this bill delineates how funds for the Corps are to be spent, which projects are to be funded, and at what levels. This ensures that vital projects to protect communities from flooding and other extreme weather will receive the funding they need, as determined by Congress in consultation with the Corps.

Ports and Harbors: The bill provides a historic \$3.473 billion for the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund—a \$702 million increase over fiscal year 2025—to improve navigation by dredging ports, maintain our nation's waterways, and ensure goods and people can get to where they need to be. The bill also includes funding for critical inland waterways navigation projects, which transport important commodities like grain, iron, and petroleum.

Key Points & Highlights – Bureau of Reclamation

Bureau of Reclamation: The bill provides \$1.65 billion in total funding for Reclamation projects to deliver reliable water and hydroelectric power to the western United States. The bill provides \$354 million above President Trump's budget request for the Bureau—rejecting many of his reckless proposed cuts, including to WaterSMART programs, which help communities address water challenges like aging infrastructure or drought.

Investing in Underserved Communities: The bill provides critical funding to bring clean, reliable, and safe drinking water to Tribal and rural communities, including to support construction of projects under Indian Water Rights Settlements. Funding both

of these efforts builds on critical progress made under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act.

Key Points & Highlights – Department of Energy

NON-DEFENSE

The bill provides \$16.78 billion for the Department of Energy's non-defense programs—rejecting steep cuts proposed by President Trump and House Republicans. This funding level is \$3.76 billion above President Trump's request and \$1.3 billion above the level in House Republicans' draft bill, which invests in:

Lowering Families' Energy Bills: The bill rejects President Trump's push to eliminate funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program, instead providing \$329 million for the program, a \$3 million increase over the current fiscal year. The program helps families improve energy efficiency in their homes and saves families \$372 per year, on average.

Scientific Discovery: The bill provides \$8.4 billion in new directed funding—\$160 million over fiscal year 2025—for the Office of Science, rejecting President Trump's push to slash funding by \$1.1 billion from current levels. This funding will help continue implementation of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022. The Office of Science is the largest federal sponsor of basic research in the physical sciences and supports 22,000 researchers at 17 national laboratories and more than 300 universities. The bill continues to advance the highest priorities in materials research, high-performance computing, artificial intelligence, biology, and clean energy research to maintain and strengthen our global competitiveness. It also rejects President Trump's efforts to cut climate science and clean energy science funding by \$1.3 billion.

Renewable Energy: The bill provides \$3.1 billion for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs, including resources for all types of renewable energy research, advanced manufacturing, and building and industrial decarbonization. The bill rejects President Trump's proposed cut of over \$2.5 billion, and it rejects his proposal to zero out funding for critical solar, wind, and hydrogen research programs. The bill maintains vital investments to bolster energy and manufacturing supply chains and ensures our continued global leadership in energy technologies.

Protecting Our Energy Grid: The bill provides \$190 million for Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response to help ensure the continued success of the Department's programs aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of our energy sector and grid. It also provides \$235 million for the Office of Electricity and \$25 million for the Grid Deployment Office, rejecting President Trump's proposed merger of the two offices. Further, an additional \$375 million provided in the bill will support critical electrical grid infrastructure, an essential investment when energy costs are skyrocketing, thanks in no small part to President Trump's policies and termination of renewable energy projects across the country.

Nuclear Energy and Fuel Security: The bill provides \$1.625 billion for nuclear energy research and development, including funding for microreactor development and accident-tolerant fuel important for nuclear reactor safety. Further, \$3.1 billion is provided to support the advanced reactor demonstration program and small modular reactors.

Tribal Energy: The bill provides \$75 million for Indian Energy Policy and Programs, an increase of \$5 million over fiscal year 2025 and \$25 above President Trump's budget request. Further, the bill rejects President Trump's proposal to prohibit funding for wind, solar, and battery projects. This funding will help continue electrifying the 30,000 Tribal homes that do not have access to power.

Indirect Costs: The bill prevents the Department of Energy from arbitrarily capping indirect costs for research and demonstration grants and requires it to use previously negotiated rates. This will ensure universities, state and local governments, nonprofits, companies, and other entities can appropriately fund overhead expenses for essential research projects.

DEFENSE

The bill provides \$33.95 billion for the Department of Energy's atomic energy defense activities and defense environmental cleanup, including:

Nuclear National Security: The bill provides \$20.378 billion for Weapons Activities. This includes \$186 million for SLCM-N and \$1.13 billion for the Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility. It also provides \$803 million for the Inertial Confinement Fusion program, \$103.17 million above the fiscal year 2025 spend plan levels. This funding allows for necessary infrastructure sustainment at the National Ignition Facility in Livermore, California, which first achieved ignition in December 2022. The bill also includes \$865.99 million for Advanced Simulation and Computing at the National Nuclear Security Administration, a \$15.99 million increase above fiscal year 2025 spend plan levels.

Nuclear Nonproliferation: The bill provides \$2.4 billion to support our nuclear nonproliferation programs, a \$115.4 million increase over President Trump's fiscal year 2026 budget request. The bill funds efforts to secure radiological materials in the U.S. and abroad, the installation of radiological detection equipment at border crossings and seaports around the world, and research and development activities on nuclear proliferation and detonation detection.

Naval Reactors: The bill provides \$2.13 billion for Naval Reactors. The bill funds operations and infrastructure activities at facilities in New York and Columbia-class Reactor Systems Development at the budget request level. The bill provides \$424 million for the Spent Fuel Handling Facility project in Idaho.

Defense Environmental Cleanup: The bill provides \$7.375 billion to fund the federal government's responsibility to clean up the nation's defense sites. In particular, the bill provides additional funding above the fiscal year 2026 budget request for cleanup sites in New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington state.

Key Points & Highlights – Independent Agencies

Appalachian Regional Commission: The bill provides \$200 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission to continue serving communities across the Appalachian region—creating economic opportunity and improving people's quality of life. President Trump's budget request cut funding by over 90 percent.

Delta Regional Authority: The bill provides \$32 million for the Delta Regional Authority to serve communities and create economic development in the lower Mississippi River regions. President Trump's budget request eliminated funding and rescinded unspent funds.

Denali Commission: The bill provides \$18 million for the Denali Commission to serve indigenous communities and economically distressed communities in Alaska. President Trump's budget request eliminated funding and rescinded unspent funds.

Northern Border Regional Commission: The bill provides \$42 million for the Northern Border Regional Commission. The commission invests in infrastructure and economic development assistance for communities experiencing persistent poverty in the northeastern United States. President Trump's budget request eliminated funding and rescinded \$15 million in unspent funds.

Southeast Crescent Regional Commission: The bill provides \$20 million for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission. President Trump's budget request eliminated funding and rescinded \$10 million in unspent funds.

Southwest Border Regional Commission: The bill provides \$5.5 million for the Southwest Border Regional Commission. President Trump's budget request eliminated funding and rescinded unspent funds.

Great Lakes Authority: The bill provides \$5 million for the Great Lakes Authority. President Trump's budget request eliminated funding and rescinded unspent funds.

Northwest Regional Commission: Establishes the Northwest Regional Commission and provides \$1 million in funding.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission: The bill provides \$152.1 million for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which is responsible for ensuring the safe use of nuclear reactors and radioactive materials while protecting people and the environment.