

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE NATION (WIIN) ACT

The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act (S. 612) includes the Water Resources Development Act of 2016, the Water and Waste Act of 2016, significant tribal and natural resources legislation, and other important measures to help improve and manage our nation's infrastructure.

Title I, the Water Resources Development of 2016. This title supports our nation's economic competitiveness and well-being by deepening nationally significant ports, providing protection from disastrous flood waters, and restoring valuable ecosystems.

Subtitle A - General Provisions, builds on the reforms of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 to provide flexibility for non-Federal sponsors of Corps projects, and increase the ability to leverage federal investments.

Subtitle B – Studies, authorizes critical studies of water resources challenges recommended by the Secretary of the Army.

Subtitle C – Deauthorizations, Modifications, and Related Provisions, addresses the backlog of Corps projects by deauthorizing inactive projects that have not received Federal or non-Federal funding recently, and deauthorizes and conveys of parts of projects that are no longer needed for a federal purpose.

Subtitle D -- Water Resources Infrastructure, authorizes 30 new projects and modifies 8 existing projects based on reports submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Army. These projects address all of the major mission areas of the Corps of Engineers including flood risk management, navigation, hurricane and storm damage risk reduction, and environmental restoration.

Title II, the Water and Waste Act of 2016. This title addresses both drinking water needs and the regulation of coal ash.

Subtitle A – Safe Drinking Water, helps communities provide safe drinking water, including small and disadvantaged communities and communities that need to replace lead pipes, and encourages cost-saving innovative technologies.

Subtitle B—Drinking Water Disaster Relief and Infrastructure Investments, authorizes relief for communities that face a drinking water emergency, such as the City of Flint, Michigan.

Subtitle C – Control of Coal Combustion Residuals, Authorizes EPA to approve state permitting programs for coal ash.

Title III, Natural Resources. This title addresses significant tribal and natural resources issues. It includes the following:

Subtitle A –Indian Dam Safety, is based on S. 2717, the Dam Repairs and Improvements for Tribes (DRIFT) Act of 2016.

Subtitle B - Irrigation Rehabilitation and Renovation for Indian Tribal Governments and Their Economies, is based on S. 438, the IRRIGATE Act, and provides for the repair, replacement, and maintenance of certain Indian irrigation projects.

Subtitle C – Weber Basin Prepayments, is based on H.R. 5468, and authorizes prepayment of a water supply contract.

Subtitle D -- Pechanga Water Rights Settlement, is based on the “Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Water Rights Settlement Act,” S. 1983 and H.R. 5984.

Subtitle E – Delaware River Basin Conservation, is based on Delaware River Basin Conservation Act of 2015, S. 921 and H.R. 1772.

Subtitle F – Miscellaneous Provisions, includes:

- Bureau of Reclamation Dakotas Area Office Permit Fees for Cabins and Trailers.
- Use of Trailer Homes at Heart Butte Dam and Reservoir (Lake Tschida).
- Lake Tahoe Restoration, based on the text of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act 2015, S. 1724 and H.R. 3382.
- Toulumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, based on the text of S. 1822 and H.R. 3079.
- San Luis Rey Settlement Agreement Implementation, based on the text of H.R. 1296.
- Tule River Indian Tribe, based on the text of H.R. 4685
- .Morongo Band of Mission Indians, based on the text of S. 175 and H.R. 387.
- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and the Chickasaw Nation Water Settlement.

Subtitle G – Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement, based on the text of S. 1125 and H.R. 5633.

Subtitle H – Water Desalination, reauthorizes the Water Desalination Act of 1996.

Subtitle I – Amendments to the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990, based on the text of S. 2949 and H.R. 5765.

Subtitle J – California Water - provides drought relief for California and the West.

Title IV – Other Matters. This title includes:

- Congressional notification requirements, based on H.R. 5977.
- Reauthorization of Denali Commission. Reauthorizes and reforms the commission.
- Recreational access for floating cabins at TVA reservoirs. Clarifies an authority from WRRDA 2014.
- Gold King Mine spill recovery. Requires EPA to reimburse costs incurred by States, Tribes, and local governments to respond to the Gold King Mine Spill.
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, based on S. 1024 and H.R. 223.
- Rehabilitation of high hazard potential dams. Authorizes FEMA assistance to states to rehabilitate unsafe dams.
- Chesapeake Bay grass survey.
- Water infrastructure finance and innovation. Expands eligibilities, addresses financing of fees, and clarifies credit for costs incurred before loan is made.
- Report on groundwater contamination.
- Columbia River Basin restoration. Authorizes a restoration program for the Columbia River Basin
- Regulation of aboveground storage at farms. Clarifies the SPCC exemption for farms.
- Irrigation districts. Clarifies that irrigation districts are eligible for Clean Water SRF funds.
- Estuary restoration. Reauthorizes the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000.
- Environmental banks. Requires guidelines for environmental banks under the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act.