

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 484

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to regulate hydraulic fracturing operations on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2019

Mr. SOTO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to regulate hydraulic fracturing operations on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. AUTHORITY OF BLM TO REGULATE HYDRAULIC**
4 **FRACTURING OPERATIONS.**

5 (a) AUTHORITY OF BLM TO REGULATE HYDRAULIC
6 FRACTURING OPERATIONS.—The Mineral Leasing Act
7 (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating section 44 as section 45;

2 and

3 (2) by adding after section 43 the following:

4 **“SEC. 44. HYDRAULIC FRACTURING OPERATIONS.**

5 “(a) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of
6 the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau
7 of Land Management, shall regulate hydraulic fracturing
8 operations on Federal lands under the administration of
9 such Secretary with respect to the purposes of this Act.

10 “(b) REQUIREMENTS ON OPERATORS.—The Sec-
11 retary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the
12 Bureau of Land Management, shall require as a condition
13 of receiving a permit or other authorization under this sec-
14 tion an operator to—

15 “(1) conduct baseline water testing; and

16 “(2) disclose to the public on an internet web-
17 site the chemicals used by such operator to conduct
18 hydraulic fracturing operations.

19 “(c) DEFINITION OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING OP-
20 ERATIONS.—The term ‘hydraulic fracturing operations’—

21 “(1) means those operations conducted in an
22 individual wellbore designed to increase the flow of
23 hydrocarbons from the rock formation to the
24 wellbore through modifying the permeability of res-

1 ervoir rock by applying fluids under pressure to frac-
2 ture it; and

3 “(2) does not include enhanced secondary re-
4 covery such as water flooding, tertiary recovery, re-
5 covery through steam injection, or other types of
6 well stimulation operations such as acidizing.”.

7 (b) DEFINITION OF UNDERGROUND INJECTION.—
8 Section 1421(d)(1)(B) of the Safe Drinking Water Act
9 (42 U.S.C. 300h(d)(1)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

10 “(B) Excludes the underground injection
11 of natural gas for purposes of storage.”.

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