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Appropriations Policy Brief

H.R. 2419 — Energy and Water Appropriations Act for FY 2006

BY THE NUMBERS:

In Millions of Dollars

	FY05	FY06 Bush Request	FY06 Committee	Cmte v. Request	Cmte v. FY05
Appropriations	30,156	29,745	29,746	0	-410
<i>Emergency Approps</i>	377	0	0	0	-377
TOTAL	30,533	29,745	29,746	0	-787

Excluding Emergency Appropriations, the Committee Bill is:

- **\$410 million (1.4%) less than last year**
- **\$1 million more than the request**

Budget Compliance: According to CBO, the bill is within the 302(b) allocation of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee and thus complies with the Budget Act.

Unauthorized Appropriations: The Committee report does not list *the amount* of unauthorized funding appropriated in the bill *as required by House rules*. It merely lists the unauthorized programs, their authorization level, and the appropriation received *in the last year of authorization* (presumably a much lower amount). This amount totals **\$20.9 billion or 70.3% of the bill**. The Rules of the House prohibit this practice, but the rule governing consideration of the bill is expected to waive this restriction.

Presidential Terminations and Reductions:

Overview:

- The President proposed a total of \$617 million in terminations and reductions to programs within the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee's jurisdiction.
- The Committee terminated 2 of the 5 programs the President proposed to eliminate (and reduced funding for the other 3) and reduced funding for one proposed to be scaled back. As a result, the Committee achieves \$175.5 million in savings, \$441.5 million less than the President requested with regard to these selected programs.

Hydropower Program: Reduces funding for the Department of Energy's program to fund the research and development of hydropower turbine designs from \$5 million to \$0.5 million. The Administration proposed to terminate the program in light of the private industry's ability to adequately fund this turbine research.

Nuclear Energy Plant Optimization (NEPO): Eliminates funding for the Department of Energy's program to manage technical difficulties that prevent existing nuclear power plants from continuing to operate. The Administration requested NEPO's termination because the program primarily benefits private industry and offers minimal public benefits.

Nuclear Energy Research Initiative: Eliminates funding for the Department of Energy's initiative to expand nuclear energy technologies, as requested by the Administration. This type of research has been folded into the primary nuclear research programs, and the Administration believes separate funding is no longer necessary.

Oil and Gas Programs: Reduces funding for the Department's Oil and Gas research and development programs to generate technologies designed to diminish the cost of exploration and production of petroleum and natural gas reserves from \$79 million to \$62 million. The Administration proposed to terminate these programs (while requesting \$20 million to close-out existing contracts), determining that these research activities are more properly funded by the private oil and gas industries.

Environmental Management: Reduces funding for the Department's Environmental Management program from \$7.8 billion to \$7.4 billion. This program pays to cleanup the radioactive and hazardous contamination at federal facilities stemming from nuclear weapons production and energy research. The Administration proposed \$424 million less for the program.

Items of Note:

Nuclear Energy: Provides \$525 million for nuclear energy programs (\$15.2 million more than last year and \$11.3 million more than the request), including the Nuclear Power 2010 initiative (\$56 million) to build the first nuclear power plant in the U.S. in three decades.

Power Marketing Administration (PMA): Maintains current law with respect to the classification of mandatory PMA receipts. The Administration proposed to reclassify receipts from three PMAs as discretionary receipts to support higher spending. Overall, the Committee provided \$265 million for PMAs, \$57 million more than last year and \$208 million above the request. **Note:** PMAs generate electricity and sell it to utilities and cooperatives in 32 states (often at below market rates). President Clinton proposed selling three PMAs in his FY96 budget request.

Hydrogen Fuel Initiative: Provides \$183 million for hydrogen technology (\$13 million more than last year and the same as the request) of which \$84 million is for fuel cell developments.

Economic Development Commissions: Reduces funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission from \$65 million to \$39 million and for the Denali Commission from \$66 million to \$3 million. The Denali Commission provides economic development grants to Alaska. The Committee maintained funding for the Delta Regional Authority – the equivalent government entity serving the Mississippi River area – at \$6 million.

Earmarks:

The Committee Report normally earmarks funding for projects that are not requested by the Administration. The Committee continues this practice this year. In addition, the bill elevates the projects identified in the Report through incorporation by reference – “the amounts made available...shall be expended in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the report accompanying this Act.”

Funding Summaries:

	FY 05 Enacted	FY 06 Request	FY 06 Cmte	Cmte Over FY05	Cmte Over Request	% Over FY05	% Over Request
Corps of Engineers							
General Investigations.....	143,344	95,000	100,000	-43,344	5,000	-30.24%	5.26%
Construction.....	1,781,720	1,637,000	1,900,000	118,280	263,000	6.64%	16.07%
Flood Control - MS River & Tributaries.....	322,309	270,000	325,000	2,691	55,000	0.83%	20.37%
Operations & Maintenance.....	1,943,428	1,979,000	2,000,000	56,572	21,000	2.91%	1.06%
Regulatory Programs.....	143,840	160,000	160,000	16,160	0	11.23%	0.00%
Cleanup of Former Nuclear Sites.....	163,680	140,000	140,000	-23,680	0	-14.47%	0.00%
Flood Control & Coastal Emergencies....	0	70,000	0	0	-70,000	0.00%	100.00%
General Expenses.....	165,664	162,000	152,021	-13,643	-9,979	-8.24%	-6.16%
Total, Corps of Engineers.....	5,039,948	4,332,000	4,746,021	-293,927	414,021	-5.83%	9.56%
Dept of Interior							
Central Utah Project.....	47,625	34,350	34,350	-13,275	0	-27.87%	0.00%
Water and Related Resources.....	852,605	771,569	832,000	-20,605	60,431	-2.42%	7.83%
Central Valley Project.....	54,628	52,219	52,219	-2,409	0	-4.41%	0.00%
California Bay-Delta Restoration.....	0	35,000	0	0	-35,000	0.00%	100.00%
Policy & Administration.....	57,688	57,917	57,917	229	0	0.40%	0.00%
Total, Dept of Interior.....	1,017,546	951,055	1,011,486	-6,060	60,431	-0.60%	6.35%
Dept of Energy							
Energy Supply.....	1,806,936	1,749,446	1,762,888	-44,048	13,442	-2.44%	0.77%
Fossil Energy Research.....	571,854	748,486	502,467	-69,387	-246,019	-12.13%	-32.87%
Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves.....	17,750	18,500	18,500	750	0	4.23%	0.00%
Elk Hills School Lands Fund.....	72,000	84,000	84,000	12,000	0	16.67%	0.00%
Strategic Petroleum Reserve.....	169,710	166,000	166,000	-3,710	0	-2.19%	0.00%
Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve.....	4,930	0	0	-4,930	0	100.00%	-
Energy Information Administration.....	83,819	85,926	86,426	2,607	500	3.11%	0.58%
Uranium Enrichment Decontamination	495,015	591,498	591,498	96,483	0	19.49%	0.00%
Non-Defense Environmental Services....	439,601	349,934	319,934	-119,667	-30,000	-27.22%	-8.57%
Science.....	3,599,871	3,462,718	3,666,055	66,184	203,337	1.84%	5.87%
Nuclear Waste Disposal.....	343,232	300,000	310,000	-33,232	10,000	-9.68%	3.33%
Departmental Administration.....	238,503	279,976	253,909	15,406	-26,067	6.46%	-9.31%
Inspector General.....	41,176	43,000	43,000	1,824	0	4.43%	0.00%
National Nuclear Security Admin.....	8,979,410	9,397,241	8,848,449	-130,961	-548,792	-1.46%	-5.84%

Defense Site Acceleration Completion.....	6,808,319	6,015,044	6,468,336	-339,983	453,292	-4.99%	7.54%
Other Defense Activities.....	687,149	635,998	702,498	15,349	66,500	2.23%	10.46%
Defense Nuclear Waste Disposal.....	229,152	351,447	351,447	122,295	0	53.37%	0.00%
Power Marketing Administrations.....	208,794	57,123	265,450	56,656	208,327	27.13%	364.70%
Total, Dept of Energy.....	24,263,197	23,920,307	24,281,857	18,660	361,550	0.08%	1.51%

Independent Agencies

Appalachian Regional Commission.....	65,472	65,472	38,500	-26,972	-26,972	-41.20%	-41.20%
Def Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.....	20,106	22,032	22,032	1,926	0	9.58%	0.00%
Delta Regional Authority.....	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Denali Commission.....	66,464	2,562	2,562	-63,902	0	-96.15%	0.00%
Nuclear Regulatory Commission.....	128,142	134,564	134,564	6,422	0	5.01%	0.00%
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.....	3,152	3,608	3,608	456	0	14.47%	0.00%
Total, Independent Agencies.....	289,336	234,238	207,266	-82,070	-26,972	-28.36%	-11.51%



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