

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted
Vote:	3 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	George L., Johnson, Morrisette
Nays:	0
Exc.:	George G., Verger
Prepared By:	Judith Callens, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/20, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress to amend the Federal Power Act to grant the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission jurisdiction over ocean wave energy conversion devices. Encourages federal rule promulgation that provides for expedited processing of preliminary permits and licenses and to include direct local input in siting decisions.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Federal Power Act did not anticipate regulation of ocean wave energy
- Federal jurisdictional battle between FERC and Minerals Management Service, Department of Interior
- Expedited process encouraged since issues different than siting dams
- Need for local input to address fisheries, ocean access, Port issues

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Federal Power Act is a supersiting statute that grants the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission jurisdiction over hydroelectric dam siting decisions nationwide. Both the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Department of Interior's Minerals Management Service have filed court petitions asserting jurisdiction over ocean wave energy facilities that may connect to the country's electrical grid. HJM 22 A urges Congress to settle the federal jurisdictional dispute so that ocean wave energy development may move forward and asks Congress to ensure local input is part of siting decisions.