

**Produced Water Utilization Act of 2008**  
**(Engrossed as Agreed to or Passed by House)**

HR 2339 EH

110th CONGRESS  
2d Session  
**H. R. 2339**

---

**AN ACT**

To encourage research, development, and demonstration of technologies to facilitate the utilization of water produced in connection with the development of domestic energy resources, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the `Produced Water Utilization Act of 2008'.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

- (1) PRODUCED WATER- The term `produced water' means water from an underground source that is brought to the surface as part of the process of exploration for or development of coalbed methane, oil, natural gas, or any other substance to be used as an energy source.
- (2) SECRETARY- The term `Secretary' means the Secretary of Energy.

**SEC. 3 PURPOSES.**

- (a) In General- The Secretary shall carry out under this Act a program of research, development, and demonstration of technologies for environmentally sustainable utilization of produced water for agricultural, irrigational, municipal, and industrial uses, or other environmentally sustainable purposes. The program shall be designed to maximize the utilization of produced water in the United States by increasing the quality of produced water and reducing the environmental impacts of produced water.
- (b) Program Elements- The program under this Act shall address the following areas, including improving safety and minimizing environmental impacts of activities within each area:

(1) Produced water recovery, including research for desalination and demineralization to reduce total dissolved solids in the produced water.

(2) Produced water utilization for agricultural, irrigational, municipal, and industrial uses, or other environmentally sustainable purposes.

(3) Re-injection of produced water into subsurface geological formations to increase energy production.

(c) Program Administration- To carry out the purposes under this Act, the Secretary may enter into an agreement with a consortium whose members have collectively demonstrated capabilities and experience in planning and managing research, development, demonstration, and commercial application programs for unconventional natural gas and other petroleum production and produced water utilization.

(d) Activities at the National Laboratories- The Secretary, through the appropriate National Laboratory, shall carry out a program of research, development, and demonstration activities complementary to and supportive of the research, development, and demonstration programs under subsection (b).

#### **SEC. 4. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.**

(a) Consultation- In carrying out this Act, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) Coordination- To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that the activities under this Act are coordinated with, and do not duplicate the efforts of, programs at the Department of Energy and other government agencies.

#### **SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

(a) Allocation- Amounts appropriated for this Act for each fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

(1) 75 percent shall be for activities under section 3(a), (b), and (c).

(2) 25 percent shall be for activities under section 3(d) and other activities under section 3, including administrative functions such as program direction, overall program oversight, and contract management.

(b) Authorization of Appropriations- There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013.

Passed the House of Representatives July 30, 2008.

Attest:

Clerk.

110th CONGRESS  
2d Session  
**H. R. 2339**  
**AN ACT**

To encourage research, development, and demonstration of technologies to facilitate the utilization of water produced in connection with the development of domestic energy resources, and for other purposes.

---