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Senate Gives Approval to FY 2006 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill

WASHINGTON – The full Senate voted tonight to pass the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2006. The bill makes appropriations for the Department of Energy, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers. The bill provides an increase of \$100 million above the President's request to support the Department of Energy Science facilities, \$240 million above the President's request for the Office of Science, and an increase of nearly a \$1 billion above the President's request for the Army Corps of Engineers.

Noteworthy:

The Senate bill in total recommends \$31.245 billion for FY06.

The Senate bill exceeds the President's request and the House-passed bill by \$1.49 billion.

The Senate bill exceeds the current year level by \$1.4 billion.

Bill Highlights:

Army Corps of Engineers

The Senate bill provides \$5.298 billion that is...

- \$966 million above the President's request
- \$258 million above the current year level

Bureau of Reclamation and related Interior accounts

The Senate bill provides \$1.08 billion, which is...

- \$130 million above the President's request
- \$63.5 million above the current year level
 - **Animas-LaPlata** -- \$60 million, up \$8 million above the request
 - **Cal Fed** -- \$37 million, \$2 million above the level of the budget request.
 - **Water 2025** is funded at current year levels (\$20 million)

Department of Energy

The Senate bill provides \$25.04 billion, which is...

\$1.2 billion above the President's request

\$778 million over the current year level

Renewable Energy R&D

The Senate bill provides \$1.25 billion, which is...

- \$53 million above the President's request
- \$5 million above the current year level.
 - Hydrogen Technology is \$182.69 million as requested.
 - Biomass is \$92 million, up \$20 million above the request.
 - Vehicle Technologies is \$199 million.

Nuclear Energy R&D

The Senate bill provides \$449 million, which is...

- \$60 million above the President's request
- \$64.3 million above the current year level
 - Nuclear Power 2010 - \$76 million
 - Next Generation Nuclear Plant - \$45 million
 - Generation IV - \$60 million
 - Advanced Fuel Concepts Initiative \$85 million

Office of Science

The Senate bill provides \$3.7 billion for scientific research, which is...

\$240 million above the President's request

\$102 million above the current year level

- **\$100 million increase is provided to support 100% utilization of all Department of Energy Science facilities.**
- The Genomes to Life program is provided \$40 million above the request to accelerate the deployment for four research facilities.
- Initiates Nanotechnology Technology Transfer fund at \$30 million.

- Fully funds the Spallation Neutron Source at Oak Ridge
- Restores funding for domestic fusion research at \$290 million.

Fossil Energy

The Senate bill provides \$641 million, which is

- \$106 million **below** the request
- \$69 million above current year level
 - Clean Coal Power Initiative received \$100 million, an increase of \$50 million
 - Funding for Oil and Gas Production Research is \$60 million, an increase of \$40 million.
 - Funding decrease is the result of deferral of \$257 million in clean coal technology funds.

Environmental Clean-up

The Senate bill provides \$7.3 billion, which is...

- \$324 million above the President's request

Nuclear Waste Disposal (Yucca Mountain)

The Senate bill provides \$577 million, which is...

- \$64 million below the President's request and at the current year levels
- No language has been included on interim storage.

NNSA Weapons Activities (Stockpile Stewardship)

The Senate bill provides \$6.75 billion

- Weapons Activities are reduced by net \$57 million **below** the President's request.
- **The Reliable Replacement Warhead** program is provided \$25 million, up \$15 million over the requested level.
- **Funding for Science, Engineering and Advanced Computing Campaigns have been increased by \$164 million.**
- **National Ignition Facility** is funded at \$314 million a decrease of \$146 million below the request. No funds are provided to continue construction.

NNSA Nonproliferation activities

The Senate bill provides \$1.73 billion, which is

- \$91.8 million above the President's request.
- \$305 million above the current year level
 - Fully funds MoX construction at \$368 million
 - Increases nuclear detection R&D by \$20 million
 - Provides \$10 million to address emerging threats
 - Global Threat Reduction Initiative is up by \$11 million

Independent Agencies

- The bill provides \$67 million for the **Denali Commission**, an increase of \$65 million over the President's request and the same as current year level.
- The bill provides \$65.5 million for the **Appalachian Regional Commission**, consistent with the President's request and current year levels.
- The bill provides \$12 million for the **Delta Regional Authority**, an increase of \$6 million over the President's request and \$6 million above the current year level.
- The bill provides a total budget of \$734.3 million for the **Nuclear Regulatory Commission**, an increase of \$41 million over the President's request and \$41 million above the current year level. Funding will be used to:
 - Support the licensing of next generation reactors.
 - Require the NRC to undertake a security assessment of on-site pool storage of spent nuclear fuel.

Cost:

The Committee, in consultation with the Congressional Budget Office, estimates the bill provides \$31.245 billion in discretionary budget authority.

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