



STATEMENT

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For Immediate Release

Bipartisan Senate Energy Bill Includes Hydropower and Marine Energy Provisions

Statement of NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci

Washington, D.C. (July 23, 2015) – The following is a statement from Linda Church Ciocci, Executive Director of the National Hydropower Association, on the release of the [Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015](#):

“We are pleased with the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee’s inclusion of bipartisan provisions to modernize the hydropower licensing process, and we applaud Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski’s and Ranking Member Maria Cantwell’s leadership and recognition of the challenges facing the industry. As federal and state governments look for clean energy solutions, hydropower, our largest source of renewable and emissions-free electricity, remains subject to a development timeline that can take up to a decade to approve a new project or relicensing an existing project – far longer than other energy options.

“The Senate bill also includes important provisions for increased research and development for marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies and extends the production incentives for hydropower development on existing infrastructure.

“NHA is also encouraged by the bipartisan statements of support for hydropower during the mark-up of the energy bill in the House Subcommittee on Energy and Power. We look forward to working with the Committee to include licensing improvement provisions to the energy bill as it moves forward for full Committee mark-up in the weeks to come.

“As the legislative process continues in both the House and the Senate, we will continue working with all interested parties toward a final bill that preserves the existing hydro system, promotes new development, and protects environmental values.”

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