National Hydropower Association

2013 NHA Conference
Hydro Legislative Outlook – 2013 and Beyond

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NHA: Looking to the Future

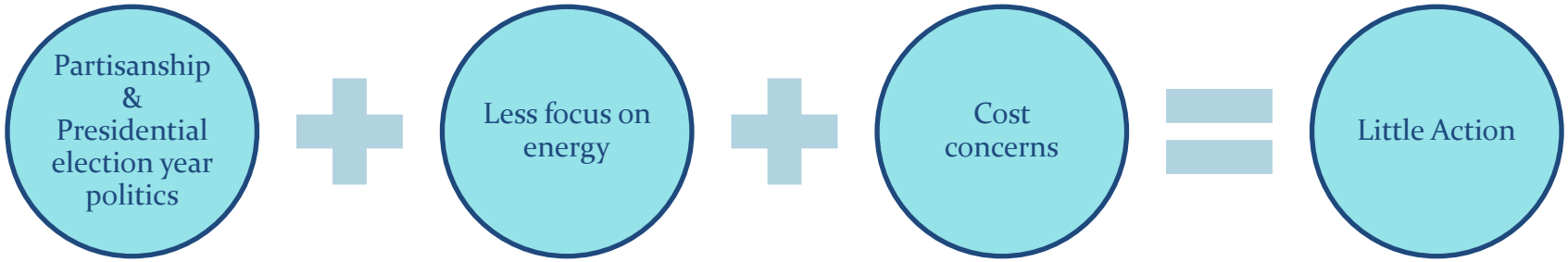
Vision

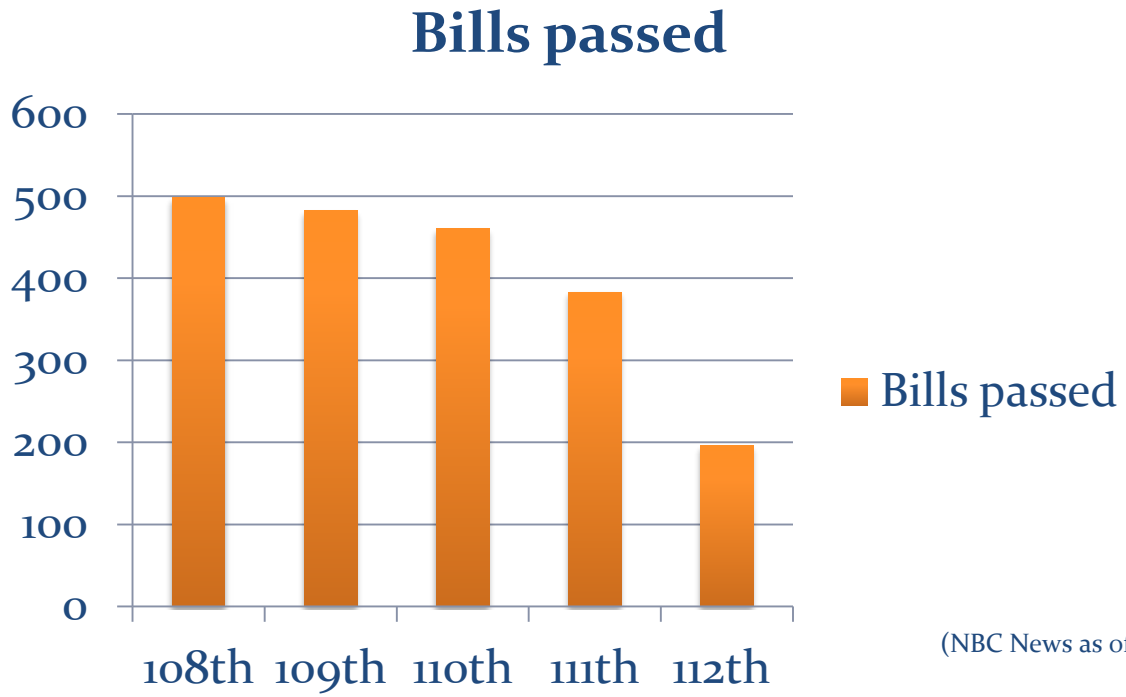
- Double America's largest renewable energy resource – hydropower – in support of a sustainable and secure clean energy future.

Mission

- Champion hydropower, in all of its forms, as America's premier clean and renewable energy resource.
- Focus on growth, operational excellence and environmental stewardship.

112th Congress Overview





(NBC News as of 11/28/2012)

Review: Hydro Actions in the 112th Congress

Regulatory Improvements

- House passage of the HREA and BuRec conduit bill
- Senate Energy Committee approval of the HIA
- Initiated the Expedited Licensing Initiative to reduce costs and delays in new project development as well as relicensing existing projects

Incentives

- Hydro PTC/ITC expansion with change to a "begin construction" 2013 deadline
- Extension of bonus depreciation
- Several bills introduced on tax priorities including: 2016 PTC extension; ITC/CREBs bill for pumped storage; ITC for hydro manufacturers, and more

Funding

- Largest appropriation for the DOE Waterpower R&D program for FY2012 of **$59 million**)
- FY 2013 continuing resolution maintained FY 2012 funding level

Clean Energy Programs

- Recognition of all new hydro generation with no restrictions in Sen. Bingaman's CES proposal
- Recognition of all new hydro generation with no restrictions in Rep. Markey's CES amendment

New: Hydro Actions in the 113th Congress

Regulatory Improvements

- House passage of HREA (422-0) and BuRec Conduit bill (416-7)
- April 23 hearing scheduled on House bills and Senate companions
- Language improving Corps of Engineers' hydropower project application process included in Senate EPW draft of WRDA.

Incentives

- Release of Treasury Department "begin construction" guidance for PTC/ITC
- Introduction of H.R. 1465, a bill to provide ITC and CREBs eligibility for energy storage projects, including pumped storage

Funding

- President Obama's FY2014 budget request includes $55 million for the DOE Waterpower R&D program – significant increase over the Administration's FY2013 request of only $20 million.

Clean Energy Programs

- Monitoring discussion on proposal development on various proposals: RES, CES, climate change and others.

Looking to 2013-2014

Continued Drivers for Congressional Action

Bipartisan Support

Job creation & economic return

No or little cost

NHA Messages to the 113th Congress

Regulatory Improvements	• Provide for a more efficient regulatory process for hydropower licensing, both new and existing projects.
Incentives	• Provide continued tax policies that incentivize hydropower growth recognizing the specific needs of the industry due to the long lead time for project deployment.
Funding	• Support technology advancement and project deployment through continued robust appropriations in FY2014 for the DOE Waterpower R&D program and the federal hydropower owners' budgets.
Clean Energy Programs	• Include hydropower in programs designed to spur clean electricity growth.

Bills NHA is Following

H.R. 267, the Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act

S.545, the Hydropower Improvement Act

H.R. 678, the Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act

S. 306, the Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act

S.601, the Water Resources Development Act

H.R. 1465, Storage Technology for Renewable and Green Energy Act

2013 Policy Priorities

Legislative and Regulatory Action Items				
Enact the current hydropower regulatory bills	Enact reforms to the approval process for non-federal development on Corps dams	Develop and enact proposals to address outstanding licensing issues for existing and new projects	Examine new incentive options and market policies to provide value for hydro's benefits and fully realize its growth potential	Engage FERC on the 2-year pilot licensing process for building on non-powered dams and closed-loop pumped storage

What you can do to help

Support NHA policy work

Contact your Members of Congress
Highlight hydro in your policy discussions – on the Hill, with agencies, etc.

Support NHA public affairs

Corporate and individuals: follow us on Facebook and Twitter
Provide case studies for NHA website spotlight

Support NHA activities

Participate in our Committees and Councils
Participate in the OpEx program