

**Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2001  
(Introduced in Senate)**

S 1577 IS

107th CONGRESS

1st Session

**S. 1577**

To amend the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 to authorize additional projects under that Act, and for other purposes.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

**October 25, 2001**

Mrs. HUTCHISON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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**A BILL**

To amend the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 to authorize additional projects under that Act, 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 'Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2001'.

**SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL PROJECT AUTHORIZATIONS.**

Section 4(a) of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-576; 114 Stat. 3067) is amended by adding at the end the following:

`(5) In the United Irrigation District of Hidalgo County, Texas, a pipeline and pumping system, as identified in the study conducted by Sigler, Winston, Greenwood, and Associates, Inc., dated January 2001.

`(6) In the Cameron County, Texas, Irrigation District No. 2, proposed improvements to Canal C, as identified in the engineering report completed by Martin, Brown, and Perez, dated February 8, 2001.

- `(7) In the Cameron County, Texas, Irrigation District No. 2, a proposed Canal C and Canal 13 Inner Connect, as identified in the engineering report completed by Martin, Brown, and Perez, dated February 12, 2001.
- `(8) In Delta Lake Irrigation District of Hidalgo and Willacy Counties, Texas, proposed water conservation projects, as identified in the engineering report completed by AW Blair Engineering, dated February 13, 2001.
- `(9) In the Hidalgo and Cameron County, Texas, Irrigation District No. 9, a proposed project to salvage spill water using automatic control of canal gates, as identified in the engineering report completed by AW Blair Engineering, dated February 14, 2001.
- `(10) In the Brownsville Irrigation District of Cameron County, Texas, a proposed main canal replacement, as identified in the engineering report completed by Holdar-Garcia & Associates, dated February 14, 2001.
- `(11) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Irrigation District No. 16, a proposed off-district pump station project, as identified in the engineering report completed by Melden & Hunt, Inc., dated February 14, 2001.
- `(12) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Irrigation District No. 1, a proposed canal replacement of the North Branch East Main, as identified in the engineering analysis completed by Melden & Hunt, Inc., dated February 2001.
- `(13) In the Donna (Texas) Irrigation District, a proposed improvement project, as identified in the engineering analysis completed by Melden & Hunt, Inc., dated February 13, 2001.
- `(14) In the Hudspeth County, Texas, Conservation and Reclamation District No. 1--
- `(A) the Alamo Arroyo Pumping Plant water quality project, as identified in the engineering report and drawings completed by Gebliard-Sarma and Associates, dated July 1996; and
  - `(B) the construction of a 1,000 acre-foot off-channel regulating reservoir for the capture and conservation of irrigation water, as identified in the engineering report completed by AW Blair Engineering, dated March 2001.
- `(15) In the El Paso County, Texas, Water Improvement District No. 1, the Riverside Canal Improvement Project Phase I, Reach A, a canal lining and water conservation project, as identified in the engineering report and drawings completed by AW Blair Engineering, dated November 1999.
- `(16) In the Maverick County, Texas, Water Improvement and Control District No. 1, the concrete lining project of 12 miles of the Maverick Main Canal, as identified in the engineering report completed by AW Blair Engineering, dated March 2001.
- `(17) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Irrigation District No. 6, rehabilitation of 10.2 miles of concrete lining in the main canal between Lift Stations Nos. 2 and 3, as identified in the engineering report completed by AW Blair Engineering, dated March 2001.

`(18) In the Hidalgo County, Texas, Irrigation District No. 2, Wisconsin Canal Improvements, as identified in the engineering report completed by Sigler, Winston, Greenwood and Associates, Inc., dated February 2001.

`(19) In the Hidalgo County Irrigation District No. 2, Lateral `A' Canal Improvements, as identified in the engineering report completed by Sigler, Winston, Greenwood and Associates, Inc., dated July 25, 2001.'.

### **SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS.**

(a) LOWER RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM- Section 3 of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-576; 114 Stat. 3065) is amended--

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by striking `The Secretary' and all that follows through `in cooperation' and inserting `The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, shall carry out a program under cooperative agreements';

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

`(b) REVIEW AND EVALUATION- The Secretary shall review and evaluate project proposals in accordance with the guidelines described in the document published by the Bureau of Reclamation entitled `Guidelines for Preparing and Reviewing Proposals for Water Conservation and Improvement Projects Under Public Law 106-576', dated June 2000.';

(3) in subsection (d), by inserting before the period at the end the following: `, including operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement';

(4) in subsection (e), by striking `the criteria established pursuant to this section' and inserting `the guidelines referred to in subsection (b)';

(5) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

`(f) REPORT PREPARATION; REIMBURSEMENT-

`(1) IN GENERAL- Subject to paragraph (2), project sponsors may choose to enter into 1 or more contracts with the Secretary under which the Secretary shall prepare the reports required under this section.

`(2) FEDERAL SHARE- The Federal share of the cost of report preparation by the Secretary described in paragraph (1) shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of that preparation.'; and

(6) in subsection (g), by striking `\$2,000,000' and inserting `\$8,000,000'.

(b) LOWER RIO GRANDE CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION- Section 4 of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-576; 114 Stat. 3067) is amended--

(1) in subsection (b)--

(A) in the first sentence, by striking `costs of any construction' and inserting `total project cost of any project'; and

(B) in the last sentence, by striking `spent' and inserting `expended'; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking `\$10,000,000' and inserting `\$47,000,000, as adjusted to reflect the change, relative to September 30, 2001, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Department of Labor'.