

**THE CLEAN ENERGY, COMMUNITY INVESTMENT, AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT:  
DEVELOPING RENEWABLE ENERGY IN A WAY THAT'S SMART FROM THE START**

**What Sportsmen Are Saying:** An improved permitting/leasing process should be developed for renewable energy projects. Leasing and permitting for renewable projects should be an open process that protects public land, considers the cumulative effect of development, and keeps public lands in public hands.

**What S. 3587 Does:** The bill sets up a pilot leasing program under which at least two lease sales for wind and two lease sales for solar energy development will be offered, after which the Secretary of the Interior will consult with stakeholders regarding the potential of a full transition to a leasing program for wind and solar development on federal land.

**What Sportsmen Are Saying:** Mitigation and reclamation of damage to fish, wildlife and water resources must be included in the development of renewable energy projects. A fund should be established from permit revenues to ensure that damages to fish and wildlife habitats are appropriately addressed.

**What S. 3587 Does:** The bill requires the Secretary of the Interior to establish royalties, fees, rentals, bonuses or other payments to ensure a fair return for rights-of-way or leases on federal lands. Of the revenue generated through these payments, a portion would be dedicated to a Renewable Energy Mitigation and Fish and Wildlife Fund. The fund would be used to mitigate impacts of renewable energy on Federal land through protection of fish and wildlife corridors and sensitive land, habitat restoration, and securing recreational access,

**What Sportsmen Are Saying:** Hunters and anglers should have a voice in the decision-making processes for renewable energy development on public lands.

**What S. 3587 Does:** The bill calls for consultation with fish and wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation communities in the creation of the pilot leasing program and the determination regarding the establishment of a permanent leasing program.

**What Sportsmen Are Saying:** Roadless backcountry lands should be protected from the impacts of renewable energy development. Already-disturbed lands should be prioritized for development of renewable energy.

**What S. 3587 Does:** The bill excludes several land types from wind and solar development under the pilot program including, National Wildlife Refuges, Wild and Scenic Rivers, units of the National Landscape Conservation System, Wilderness, lands managed for wilderness characteristics, and inventoried roadless areas, to name a few.  
**What Sportsmen Are Saying:** Development and permitting decisions affecting federal public lands should be made in consultation with state fish and wildlife agencies.

**What S. 3587 Does:** In selecting the sites for the pilot program, the Secretary of the Interior is required to consult with state fish and wildlife agencies.

**What Sportsmen Are Saying:** Compliance with all pertinent bedrock environmental legislation such as the National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking

Water Act and Resource Conservation Recovery Act is essential to protect public-lands resources.

**What S. 3587 Does:** Sec. 2(b)(5) requires the Secretary to comply with all applicable environmental and other laws in offering leases.

**What Sportsmen Are Saying:** Industry should be responsible for the costs of developing renewable energy on public lands. In the past, public-lands energy development has taxed the federal government's ability to work in a balanced manner.

**What S. 3587 Does:** The bill will ensure industry is responsible for its fair share of the costs of development, while providing the Secretary of the Interior authority to grant royalty relief for the first five years of a project and set royalty rates at a level that promotes development. This balance will help to mitigate impacts on the ground while facilitating the development of clean, renewable energy resources on public lands.

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