



Senate OKs bill to promote wide variety of energy sources

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It now must be reconciled with a House-passed version that boosts fossil fuels such as oil, coal and natural gas.

"This bill will especially help state and local governments implement effective building energy codes and other policies to save Americans money", said Steven Nadel, executive director of the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Obama has threatened to veto the House measure.

Murkowski said she would support holding a formal conference with the House over the legislation and suggested the time and legislative calendar would be the key hurdles to getting something through this session of Congress. She expressed optimism that differences over issues could be worked out given sufficient time. For example, the Senate one, requires the Department of Energy to issue a decision on LNG projects within 45 days of environment assessment while the House bill requires the DOE to make a decision in 30 days.

The Senate also unanimously approved Sullivan Amendment #3310, offered by Senator Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska), which grants up to 25.8 additional acres of land conveyances at the existing Swan Lake hydro project, 22 miles north of Ketchikan.

"It also contains far too many damaging, anti-environmental provisions", the The Washington Post reports Ms. Chieffo saying, "such as exemptions from EPA's clean air protections, weakened environmental review, and increased export and development of fossil fuels". Senators then proceeded to drop measures from the bill to aid Flint, Michigan over a drinking water crisis wherein thousands were affected by the high lead exposure. —

Reauthorize the half-billion dollar Land and Water Conservation Fund that protects parks, public lands and water resources, historic sites and battlefields.

The oil and gas industries are going strong in the United States as drilling techniques, including fracking, allow access to more material.

Environmental policy analyst Peter Van Doren of the Cato Institute told The Christian Science Monitor by phone that the reason this bill had passed was less due to genuine goodwill than the

success of each side's agenda. The Obama administration is working on cutting down the greenhouse gas emissions from power plants and other sources, including the June 2014 Clean Power Plan.

"I have framed my energy policy into three simple words... energy is good", she said on the Senate floor. "We applaud Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell for their tireless efforts to guide this bill and appreciate the efforts of leaders such as Senators Hoeven and Manchin that have championed improving how our nation uses energy for the past several years".