



GOP senators express concerns over colleague's Sept. 11 bill

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The far-reaching energy bill reflects significant changes in US oil and natural gas production over the past decade and boosts alternative energy sources such as wind and solar *power*.

The bill also would speed federal approval of projects to export liquefied natural gas to Europe and Asia.

The Senate and House have little time on their calendars this year to hammer out an agreement on an energy reform bill, the lead sponsor of the Senate's bill said Wednesday.

Murkowski noted that bipartisan efforts helped move the bill, saying 80 senators have "some level of ownership" over the bill's contents.

Beside the Flint provision, Murkowski and Sen. If adopted in the final conferenced bill, this amendment would provide the much-needed certainty that will help our industry grow. Introduced by Senators Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.V., and Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D, the amendment would affirm a federal commitment to carbon capture utilization and storage and implement a study of the benefits of federal contracting authority for carbon capture utilization and storage price stabilization. "At the end of the day, the balance of this bill favors the dirty and unsafe fossil fuels of the past", the club's legislative director, Melinda Pierce, said in a statement.

Last year Murkowski set up camp on the centerline, pledging to craft a bipartisan energy bill as chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, with help from the committee's ranking member, Sen.

"Our newfound energy abundance has completely flipped the script, and it's time our energy laws caught up to the 21st century", Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich), the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said in a statement. Burkhalter further stated, "We thank Senator McConnell for his continued leadership and ensuring key provisions of the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act were included in the Energy Bill".

"What we'll be moving now is what was achievable in the Senate", Murkowski said in an interview. The American Gas Association said it promotes a "strategic use of our nation's natural

resources", while the American Petroleum Institute said it "strengthens America's energy security". The Senate bill, which was approved on a 95-to-3 vote, didn't address privatization.

On Wednesday, the U.S. Senate passed a long-stalled energy bill after lawmakers ended a partisan dispute over funding for the water-contamination crisis in Flint, Mich.

The Edison Electric Institute, a **Washington**, D.C.-based nonprofit that represents US electric *power* companies, came out in favor of the bill, praising the streamlined permitting for energy projects.

Reauthorizes the Vehicle Technologies Office at the Department of Energy, which supports research and development to make vehicles more efficient.

The energy legislation will now go to the House.

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 new rules in the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2016, passed Tuesday by a vote of 95-3, reflect the opportunities seen for the use of drones both for commercial and other applications such as in emergencies.