

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 25, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Majority Leader Scalise,


We write to you to urge the passage of S.1020 (H.R. 2072), our 'Build More Hydro' bill, a bipartisan bill that authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend construction deadlines for critical hydropower projects nationwide. On July 9, 2025, S.1020 passed the Senate by unanimous consent and the House received the bill on August 1, 2025, where it remains held at the desk awaiting action.

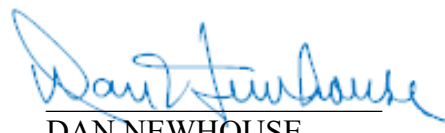
If S. 1020 is not enacted, 37 unconstructed, FERC-licensed hydropower projects across 15 states, representing more than 2.6GW of baseload power and \$6.5 billion in investment, are at risk of termination. These are ready to implement projects that have already completed environmental reviews and were licensed before March 13, 2020. This bill grants FERC the ability to provide six-year extensions and prevent critical infrastructure from being permanently halted.

Since the introduction of this bill, approximately 100MW of hydropower has been put on hold with an additional 36MW forced into limbo by the end of the year because of congressional inaction. Hydropower supplies baseload electricity to over 30 million homes, provides 96% of utility-scale energy storage, and remains vital to flood control, water storage, irrigation, and grid reliability services.

Losing these projects would undermine grid reliability at a time when we can least afford it. Advancing S.1020 before the end of the year is an essential step to protect American energy security, ensure reliable power to communities across the nation and prevent the loss of billions in investment. We respectfully request that the Committee on Energy and Commerce allow S.1020 to proceed on the House suspension calendar, pass and be sent to the President's desk as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

  
STEVE DAINES  
United States Senator

  
DAN NEWHOUSE  
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce