

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 16, 2001

S. 1097

A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue right-of-way permits for natural gas pipelines within the boundary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on August 2, 2001

S. 1097 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue right-of-way permits for the installation of natural gas pipelines within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The bill would limit the permits to three specific sites within the park. Permits would be issued with certain conditions placed on the permit holder such as provisions for the protection and restoration of the land during pipeline construction.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1097 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Because the National Park Service would probably charge fees for the right-of-way permits, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but CBO estimates that any offsetting receipts earned from these fees would be less than \$500,000 a year.

S. 1097 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Deborah Reis and Julie Middleton. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.