

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 2, 2005

H.R. 1564 Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District Conveyance Act of 2005

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on October 19, 2005

H.R. 1564 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands and buildings comprising a portion of the Yakima Project in Yakima County, Washington, to the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District. Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1564 would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

This bill would transfer title for approximately nine acres of land and several buildings to the irrigation district. Other parts of the project, including the Tieton diversion dam and associated canals, would not be affected. The district has fully complied with all repayment agreements associated with the project, and currently makes only small payments to reimburse the Bureau of Reclamation for operations and maintenance of Yakima-Tieton facilities. Such payments are mandatory receipts to the Reclamation Fund, and would no longer be made if this bill were enacted, decreasing receipts and resulting in a negligible increase in mandatory spending. Under the bill, the bureau would no longer be responsible for the minor discretionary costs associated with operations and maintenance of the conveyed facilities.

H.R. 1564 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 land conveyance authorized by this bill would be voluntary on the part of the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District. Any costs they might incur to comply with the conditions of the conveyance would be incurred voluntarily.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mike Waters. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.