



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

June 14, 2002

S. 1843

A bill to extend certain hydroelectric licenses in the state of Alaska

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on June 5, 2002*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1843 would have no net effect on the federal budget. The bill 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.

S. 1843 would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to stay the license for hydroelectric project number 11393 until a specific transmission line is constructed. When the line is completed, FERC would be required to lift the stay and extend the deadline for beginning construction of the project for up to six years. This project is near Ketchikan, Alaska, and is subject to licensing by FERC. This provision may have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Hence, the bill's provisions would have no net budgetary impact.

Because FERC's administrative costs are set in annual appropriations, enactment of this legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply to S. 1843.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lisa Cash Driskill. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.