

Congressman Cuellar's FY9 Energy & Water Language

1. Chacon Creek:

“Chacon Creek, Texas.— The Corps has multiple authorities to provide technical assistance to non-federal entities. The Committee encourages the Corps to review these authorities to identify opportunities to help advance the Chacon Creek, Texas, project, for which the Corps executed a feasibility cost sharing agreement in 2004.”

2. Minority Serving Institution Partnerships Program:

*“Academic Alliances and Partnerships.—*Within Academic Alliances and Partnerships, not less than \$20,000,000 shall be for the Minority Serving Institution Partnerships Program...”

3. Performance measures:

*“Performance Measures.—*The Committee directs each of the agencies funded by this Act to comply with title 31 of the United States Code, including the development of their organizational priority goals and outcomes such as performance outcome measures, output measures, efficiency measures, and customer service measures.”

4. Encouraging cybersecurity investments on the electric grid:

“The fiscal year 2018 Act directed FERC to analyze electricity transmission investment incentives in rate treatments to determine ways to encourage efficient investment for critical infrastructure security and to report this analysis to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act. The Committee encourages FERC to meet the provided deadline.”

5. Natural gas technologies research:

“Natural Gas Technologies. Research.— The Department is encouraged to explore technologies that curtail methane gas emissions from flaring and venting in shale formations.”

6. Mission Reach:

*“Additional Funding.—*Of the additional funds provided in this account for flood and storm damage reduction, navigation and other authorized project purposes, the Corps shall allocate not less than \$15,000,000 to authorized reimbursements for projects with executed project cooperation agreements and that have completed construction or where non-federal sponsors intend to use funds for additional water resources development activities.”

7. Falcon and Amistad Dams:

“The Committee continues to hear concerns that additional infrastructure investments are necessary at these dams. The fiscal year 2018 Act directed Western to coordinate with the International Boundary and Water Commission to determine a plan for addressing any needed improvements and brief the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on progress towards finalizing a plan. The Committee reiterates this direction.”

8. Alleviation of poverty:

*“Alleviation of Poverty.--*In its fiscal year 2016 report, the Committee directed the Department to provide a report detailing all domestic and international projects and programs within its jurisdiction that contribute to the alleviation of poverty. The Department is encouraged to provide this report not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.”

9. Workplace diversity:

*“Workplace Diversity.--*The Committee recognizes the importance of workplace diversity in the Department of Energy’s National Laboratories. The Committee encourages the Department to continue to develop and broaden partnerships with minority serving institutions, including Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Asian and Pacific Islander Serving Institutions, Predominantly Black institutions, Tribal Colleges, and other Minority Serving Institutions. The Committee notes that the fiscal year 2017 Act directed the Department to provide a detailed plan outlining efforts to recruit and retain diverse talent from the institutions mentioned above. The Department is encouraged to provide this plan not later than 90 days of enactment of the Act.”

10. Natural gas research:

“The Committee notes that natural gas plays an important role in meeting the energy needs of U.S. homes and commercial buildings. The Committee encourages the Department to explore research and development that can advance future natural gas systems and appliances to meet consumer demand for high efficiency and environmentally friendly products.”