AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 8
OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR OF ARIZONA

At the end of the bill, add the following new title:

TITLE VII—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 7001. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) COVERED CIVIL ACTION.—The term “covered civil action” means a civil action containing a claim under section 702 of title 5, United States Code, regarding agency action (as defined for the purposes of that section) affecting a covered energy project on Federal land.

(2) COVERED ENERGY PROJECT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “covered energy project” means—

(i) the leasing of Federal land for the exploration, development, production, processing, or transmission of oil, natural gas, coal, geothermal, hydroelectric, biomass, solar, or any other source of energy; and

(ii) any action under the lease.
(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “covered energy project” does not include any dispute between the parties to a lease regarding the obligations under the lease, including any alleged breach of the lease.

SEC. 7002. EXCLUSIVE VENUE FOR CERTAIN CIVIL ACTIONS RELATING TO COVERED ENERGY PROJECTS.

Venue for any covered civil action shall lie in the United States district court in which the covered energy project or lease exists or is proposed.

SEC. 7003. TIMELY FILING.

To ensure timely redress by the courts, a covered civil action shall be filed not later than the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the final Federal agency action to which the covered civil action relates.

SEC. 7004. EXPEDITION IN HEARING AND DETERMINING THE ACTION.

The court shall endeavor to hear and determine any covered civil action as expeditiously as practicable.

SEC. 7005. LIMITATION ON INJUNCTION AND PROSPECTIVE RELIEF.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In a covered civil action, a court shall not grant or approve any prospective relief unless the court finds that the relief—

(1) is narrowly drawn;
(2) extends no further than necessary to correct the violation of a legal requirement; and

(3) is the least intrusive means necessary to correct the violation.

(b) DURATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A court shall limit the duration of preliminary injunctions to halt covered energy projects to not more than 60 days, unless the court finds clear reasons to extend the injunction.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—In the case of an extension, the extension shall—

(A) only be in 30-day increments; and

(B) require action by the court to renew the injunction.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 504 of title 5 and 2412 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the “Equal Access to Justice Act”), shall not apply to a covered civil action.

(b) COURT COSTS.—A party to a covered civil action shall not receive payment from the Federal Government for the attorneys’ fees, expenses, or other court costs incurred by the party.

SEC. 7006. LEGAL STANDING.

A challenger that files an appeal with the Department of the Interior Board of Land Appeals shall meet the same
standing requirements as a challenger before a United States district court.