

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 7688
OFFERED BY MS. HERRELL OF NEW MEXICO

Add at the end the following:

1 **SEC. 3. PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS TO**
2 **DRILL.**

3 Section 17(p) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
4 226(p)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(4) EFFECT OF PENDING CIVIL ACTION ON
6 PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS TO
7 DRILL.—Pursuant to the requirements of paragraph
8 (2), notwithstanding the existence of any pending
9 civil actions which do not directly affect or involve
10 the application or related lease, the Secretary shall
11 process an application for a permit to drill under a
12 valid existing lease, unless a United States Federal
13 court has determined that the lease was not issued
14 in compliance with the National Environmental Pol-
15 icy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).”.

