AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1937, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. BEN RAY LUJÁN OF NEW MEXICO

Add at the end the following:

SEC. ___. LONG-TERM WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM; DESIGNATION AS SUPERFUND SITE.

(a) GOLD KING MINE SPILL RESPONSE PROGRAM.—

   (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall work with affected States and Indian tribes to develop, fund, and implement a long-term monitoring program for water quality of the Animas and San Juan Rivers in response to the Gold King Mine spill.

   (2) REQUIREMENT.—The program under paragraph (1) shall provide—

      (A) full disclosure to the public of applicable water quality and sediment data; and

      (B) a clear and meaningful comparison between those data and all relevant water quality standards.

   (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Administrator should—
(1) consult with all local communities along the Animas and San Juan Rivers affected by the Gold King Mine spill, the Navajo Nation, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and the States of Colorado and New Mexico to determine whether it is appropriate to seek a designation for the Upper Animas River watershed on the National Priorities List under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.); and

(2) prioritize the construction of a water treatment plant in the Upper Animas River basin to significantly reduce the ongoing heavy metal discharge into the Animas River from Cement Creek.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Gold King Mine spill” means the discharge on August 5, 2015, of approximately 3,000,000 gallons of contaminated water from the Gold King Mine north of Silverton, Colorado, into Cement Creek that occurred while contractors of the Environmental Protection Agency were conducting an investigation of the Gold King Mine.