

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1
OFFERED BY MS. PLASKETT OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

Insert after section 10016 the following:

1 SEC. 10017. RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM.

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall es-
4 tablish a renewable energy program (in this section re-
5 ferred to as the “program”) under which the Secretary
6 may award grants to covered entities to facilitate projects,
7 in territories of the United States, described in subsection
8 (c).

9 (b) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
10 the program, a covered entity shall submit to the Sec-
11 retary an application at such time, in such form, and con-
12 taining such information as the Secretary may require.

13 (c) GRANT USES.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity receiving a
15 grant under the program may use grant funds for
16 a project, in territories of the United States—

17 (A) to construct a renewable energy sys-
18 tem;

19 (B) to carry out an activity to increase en-
20 ergy efficiency;

1 (C) to construct an energy storage system
2 or device for—

3 (i) a system constructed under sub-
4 paragraph (A); or

5 (ii) an activity carried out under sub-
6 paragraph (B);

7 (D) to construct—

8 (i) a smart grid; or

9 (ii) a microgrid; or

10 (E) to train residents of territories of the
11 United States to construct, maintain, or operate
12 a renewable energy system.

13 (2) LIMITATION.—A covered entity receiving a
14 grant under the program may not use grant funds
15 to construct a facility that generates electricity using
16 energy derived from—

17 (A) fossil fuels; or

18 (B) nuclear power.

19 (d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall
20 provide technical assistance to each covered entity car-
21 rying out a project assisted with a grant under the pro-
22 gram.

23 (e) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the es-
24 tablishment of the program, and on an annual basis there-

1 after, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report con-
2 taining—

3 (1) an estimate of the amount of funds dis-
4 bursed under the program;

5 (2) an estimate of the energy conservation
6 achieved as a result of the program;

7 (3) a description of challenges encountered in
8 implementing projects described in subsection (c)(1);
9 and

10 (4) recommendations as to additional legislative
11 measures to increase the use of renewable energy in
12 territories of the United States, as appropriate.

13 (f) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—

14 (1) STUDY AND REPORT.—Not later than 180
15 days after the date of enactment of this section, the
16 Comptroller General of the United States shall—

17 (A) conduct a study regarding renewable
18 energy and energy efficiency in territories of the
19 United States; and

20 (B) submit to Congress a report con-
21 taining—

22 (i) the findings of the study; and

23 (ii) related recommendations.

1 (2) COMPONENTS.—The study conducted under
2 paragraph (1) shall consider, in relation to terri-
3 tories of the United States, the potential—

4 (A) to modify existing electric power sys-
5 tems to use renewable energy sources;

6 (B) to expand the use of microgrids; and

7 (C) to improve energy resiliency.

8 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
9 nitions apply:

10 (1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-
11 tity” means a not-for-profit organization determined
12 eligible by the Secretary for purposes of this section.

13 (2) MICROGRID.—The term “microgrid” means
14 an electric system—

15 (A) that serves the local community with a
16 power generation and distribution system; and

17 (B) that has the ability—

18 (i) to disconnect from a traditional
19 electric grid; and

20 (ii) to operate autonomously when dis-
21 connected.

22 (3) RENEWABLE ENERGY; RENEWABLE ENERGY
23 SYSTEM.—The terms “renewable energy” and “re-
24 newable energy system” have the meanings given

1 those terms in section 415(c) of the Energy Con-
2 servation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6865(c)).

3 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
4 the Secretary of Energy.

5 (5) SMART GRID.—The term “smart grid”
6 means an intelligent electric grid that uses digital
7 communications technology, information systems,
8 and automation to, while maintaining high system
9 reliability—

10 (A) detect and react to local changes in
11 usage;

12 (B) improve system operating efficiency;
13 and

14 (C) reduce spending costs.

15 (6) TERRITORY.—The term “territory” means
16 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the
17 United States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and
18 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
19 lands.

20 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
21 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
22 necessary to carry out this section.

