

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT  
OF H.R. 702  
OFFERED BY MR. RUSH OF ILLINOIS**

Page 4, after line 21, add the following:

1 **SEC. 7. ENERGY-RELATED DIVERSITY SUPPLY CHAIN PRO-**  
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy (in this  
4 section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall establish and  
5 carry out a comprehensive program via the Office of Eco-  
6 nomic Impact and Diversity to increase the utilization and  
7 inclusion of minority-owned businesses (in this section re-  
8 ferred to as “MBEs”) and women-owned businesses (in  
9 this section referred to as “WBEs”) in energy-related sup-  
10 ply chain sectors, including by—

11 (1) collaborating with industry to identify the  
12 services and activities needed within the energy sup-  
13 ply chain, including obtaining data on the services  
14 needed by sector and by region;

15 (2) collaborating with the Department of Com-  
16 merce (Minority Business Development Agency), the  
17 Small Business Administration, industry, the Na-  
18 tional Minority Supplier Development Council (and  
19 its regional affiliates), the Women’s Business Enter-

1       prise Network Council, minority Chambers of Com-  
2       merce chapters, and major certifying organizations  
3       of minority- and women-owned businesses, to estab-  
4       lish a public database on businesses that are both  
5       certified as minority- or women-owned and are cur-  
6       rent vendors in the oil and natural gas industry; and

7               (3) working with industry to establish pro-  
8       grammatic commitments for diversity hiring for ven-  
9       dor and contracting opportunities within the supply  
10      chain through contractual obligations, incentives,  
11      and other means as appropriate and necessary with  
12      a goal of no less than 10 percent participation by  
13      MBEs to be achieved by 2020.

14      (b) DIVERSITY SUPPLY CHAIN SPECIALTY CENTERS  
15      TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS.—The Secretary, in  
16      collaboration with the Department of Commerce, industry,  
17      the National Minority Supplier Development Council (and  
18      its regional affiliates) the Women’s Business Enterprise  
19      Network Council, and other organizations determined nec-  
20      essary by the Secretary, shall establish a minimum of five  
21      regional centers or work with existing regional facilities  
22      with the purpose of securing vendor and contracting op-  
23      portunities for MBEs and WBEs within the energy sector.  
24      The centers shall be placed in regions based on their geo-  
25      graphic proximity and capacity to support energy-related

1 activities and services as part of the supply chain. The  
2 Specialty Centers shall work with industry partners to  
3 identify supply chain vendor and contracting opportunities  
4 for MBEs and WBEs in energy-related sectors by—

5 (1) developing strategies for minority business  
6 contracting and vendor opportunities, and to hold  
7 business development sessions in strategic locations  
8 where energy development exists or is expanding;

9 (2) holding regional training seminars to help  
10 develop and prepare minority- and women-owned  
11 firms to meet eligibility requirements for vendor and  
12 contracting opportunities within the supply chain,  
13 help these firms navigate the contracting process  
14 with the larger oil companies, and secure contracts/  
15 sub-contracts for these firms with oil companies and  
16 prime contractors, and engaging industry partners  
17 to ensure the events address specific needs in the  
18 sector;

19 (3) encouraging the formation of consortiums/  
20 partnerships by minority- and women-owned firms,  
21 as well as with majority firms in order to meet  
22 qualifications and capacities that industry is seeking;

23 (4) encouraging established contractors to team  
24 up with minority- and women-owned firms in order

1 to help them become qualified and eligible to sign  
2 contracts;

3 (5) holding business opportunity sessions with  
4 chief procurement officers and seasoned minority  
5 business executives in the energy sector to engage in  
6 activities (such as panel discussions, plenary ses-  
7 sions, and workshops to share best practices, current  
8 trends and issues, and next practices) designed to  
9 bolster the value that minority suppliers deliver to  
10 corporate customers;

11 (6) holding small group capacity training ses-  
12 sions, which may include more intensive MBE and  
13 WBE capacity training for small groups of busi-  
14 nesses seeking growth in the oil and gas sector. Also  
15 include assessment tools to allow MBEs and WBEs  
16 to conduct voluntary, objective self-assessments, and  
17 subsequently provide technical assistance to address  
18 operational gaps; and

19 (7) encouraging a “roundtable” task force of  
20 the top 100 energy corporations to share successes,  
21 best practices, and lessons learned to inform MBEs  
22 and WBEs, and encourage industry commitments to  
23 create supplier diversity goals.

24 (c) ACCESS TO CAPITAL.—The Small Business Ad-  
25 ministration shall provide funding for loans, financing,

1 and insurance in order to assist minority- and women-  
2 owned firms in securing contracts through mechanisms in-  
3 cluding—

4 (1) public-private partnerships, including  
5 matching fund (private sector match) per year for  
6 programming in order to assist MBEs and WBEs in  
7 securing contracts;

8 (2) minority-owned banks, including providing  
9 funding for loans and financing in order to assist  
10 energy sector supply chain minority- and women-  
11 owned firms in securing contracts;

12 (3) solicit a coalition of investors focused on in-  
13 vesting in MBEs and WBEs within the energy sec-  
14 tor; and

15 (4) make grants available to Minority Serving  
16 Institutions with formal engineering and entrepre-  
17 neurship programs that could be used as recruiting  
18 entities within the energy-related supply chain sec-  
19 tor.

20 (d) OUTREACH TO MINORITY COMMUNITIES.—In  
21 carrying out the program established under subsection (a),  
22 the Secretary shall engage in education and outreach pro-  
23 grams in order to bring awareness of vendor and con-  
24 tracting opportunities to minority communities, including  
25 by holding informational sessions at community events,

1 churches, Minority Serving Institutions (including histori-  
2 cally black colleges and universities, predominantly black  
3 institutions, Hispanic-serving institutions, and tribal insti-  
4 tutions), and other venues that the Secretary determines  
5 necessary and appropriate.

6 (e) REPORT.—

7 (1) PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY.—The Minor-  
8 ity Business Development Administration shall pub-  
9 lish a directory of 8a firms (as approved by the  
10 Small Business Administration) that have North  
11 American Industrial Codes (NAICs) in the energy  
12 sector. It should be updated electronically on an on-  
13 going basis. Major energy companies shall be en-  
14 couraged to utilize this directory in recruiting  
15 minority- and women-owned firms for contracting,  
16 subcontracting, and partnerships such as Mentor/  
17 Protégé relationships.

18 (2) USE.—The Minority Business Development  
19 Agency shall utilize the directory and other appro-  
20 priate resources in recruiting (outreach) firms for  
21 technical support and lending assistance.

22 (3) SBA REPORTS.—The Small Business Ad-  
23 ministration shall submit quarterly reports on lend-  
24 ing activity to firms in the NAIC directory, as well  
25 as on contracting activity of those same firms.

1           (4) UNION TRADES REPORTS.—The Depart-  
2           ment of Labor shall send semi-annual reports on  
3           union trades that deal in the energy sector per Exec-  
4           utive Order 11246, including justification of the  
5           unions' certification.

6           (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
7           are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
8           out this section \$15,000,000 for the fiscal years encom-  
9           passing 2016 through 2025, to remain available until ex-  
10          pended.

11          (g) SUNSET.—The authority of the Secretary to carry  
12          out this section shall expire at the end of fiscal year 2026.

