

Press Release

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Bipartisanship IS Alive-when it gets to Gutting Environmental Protections

For immediate release:

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The House of Representatives debt ceiling bill contains 20 pages of revisions to the 1970 National Environmental Policy Act. Under the framework of a budget issue, the Congress is about to eviscerate major elements of that Act that has served us well for many years without any public disclosure or input, hearings or even reason for those changes.

The changes would prevent the preparation of “program” environmental impact statements (EISs) that address major decisions involving multiple projects and cumulative impacts, narrow the scope and options in others, and curtail public review periods of documents issued.

Worse yet, these changes appear to be bi-partisan in efforts to promote oil and gas development on one side, and while virtually destroying environmental protection on the other because even alternative sources can be environmentally destructive. Whoever said the Parties can’t work together?

This is a shameful exercise by the Congress, and it is equally distressing that our largest environmental organizations stand by the wayside, silently letting our environmental laws be gutted.

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