

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8292

To require a report on Puerto Rico’s progress toward rebuilding the electric grid and detailing the efforts the Federal Government is undertaking to expedite such rebuilding, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 5, 2022

Mr. TORRES of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require a report on Puerto Rico’s progress toward rebuilding the electric grid and detailing the efforts the Federal Government is undertaking to expedite such rebuilding, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. REPORT ON PUERTO RICO’S ELECTRIC GRID.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Home-
6 land Security and the Administrator of the Federal Emer-
7 gency Management Agency (FEMA), in consultation with
8 the Secretary of the Department of Energy and the Sec-

1 retary of the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-
2 ment, shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees a report on Puerto Rico's progress toward rebuild-
4 ing the electric grid and that details the efforts the Fed-
5 eral Government is undertaking to expedite such rebuild-
6 ing. The report shall contain the following:

7 (1) An analysis of the state of Puerto Rico's
8 electric grid, including the following:

9 (A) A list of projects in order of priority,
10 estimated cost, and estimated time necessary
11 for completion.

12 (B) An analysis of the measures taken by
13 the Federal Government to expedite such re-
14 building and the effectiveness of such measures.

15 (C) Information relating to the amount of
16 funds that have been allocated and the amount
17 of funds that have been disbursed.

18 (D) An analysis of how the Federal Gov-
19 ernment can provide further assistance in expe-
20 diting such rebuilding.

21 (2) An analysis of the state of Puerto Rico's re-
22 newable energy generation and storage capacities,
23 including the following:

1 (A) A list of current and expected projects
2 focused on renewable energy generation and
3 storage.

4 (B) A report on the development of renew-
5 able energy sources in Puerto Rico, including
6 projections for meeting renewable energy
7 metrics established in the Puerto Rico Energy
8 Public Policy Act (Act 17).

9 (C) An analysis of challenges for improving
10 Puerto Rico's renewable energy capacity and
11 recommendations for addressing such chal-
12 lenges.

13 (D) An analysis of how the Federal Gov-
14 ernment can provide further assistance, includ-
15 ing funding and legislative actions, in facili-
16 tating renewable energy development and im-
17 proving Puerto Rico's renewable energy genera-
18 tion and storage capacities.

19 (E) An analysis of the extent to which
20 FEMA funding to rebuild the electric grid will
21 be used to support the construction of, or to ex-
22 tend the operating life of, fossil fuel generation,
23 and the extent to which those assets will be-
24 come stranded assets as the cost of renewable
25 energy continues to decrease.

1 (3) Recommendations, as appropriate, for
2 power companies and governments to reduce the
3 number of outages and blackouts.

4 (4) Proposals, as appropriate, for legislative ac-
5 tions and funding needed to improve the process of
6 fund disbursement for critical projects related to
7 electric grids.

8 (5) A plan for expediting such rebuilding by not
9 later than three months after the report is so sub-
10 mitted.

11 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-
12 priate congressional committees” means the Committee on
13 Homeland Security, the Committee on Natural Resources,
14 and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
15 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
16 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the
17 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
18 ate.

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