

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 587

To establish a Western Hemisphere Energy Cooperation Forum to establish partnerships with interested countries in the hemisphere to promote energy security through the accelerated development of sustainable biofuels production and energy alternatives, research, and infrastructure, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 12, 2009

Mr. LUGAR introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To establish a Western Hemisphere Energy Cooperation Forum to establish partnerships with interested countries in the hemisphere to promote energy security through the accelerated development of sustainable biofuels production and energy alternatives, research, and infrastructure, 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. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Western Hemisphere Energy Compact”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
 2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. Western Hemisphere Energy Cooperation Forum.
- Sec. 5. United States-Brazil biofuels partnership.
- Sec. 6. International agricultural extension programs.
- Sec. 7. Biofuels feasibility studies.
- Sec. 8. Regional development banks.
- Sec. 9. Carbon credit trading mechanisms.
- Sec. 10. Energy crisis response preparedness.
- Sec. 11. Energy foreign assistance.
- Sec. 12. Energy public diplomacy.
- Sec. 13. Report.

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) The engagement of the United States Gov-  
 6 ernment on energy issues with governments of will-  
 7 ing countries in the Western Hemisphere is a stra-  
 8 tegic priority because such engagement can help  
 9 to—

10 (A) reduce the potential for conflict over  
 11 energy resources;

12 (B) maintain and expand reliable energy  
 13 supplies;

14 (C) expand the use of renewable energy;  
 15 and

16 (D) reduce the detrimental effects of en-  
 17 ergy import dependence.

18 (2) Several nations in the Western Hemisphere,  
 19 including Brazil, Canada, Mexico, the United States,

1 and Venezuela, are important for global energy secu-  
2 rity and climate change mitigation.

3 (3) Current energy dialogues and agreements  
4 should be expanded and refocused, as needed, to  
5 meet the challenges described in paragraph (1).

6 (4) Countries in the Western Hemisphere can  
7 most effectively meet their common needs for energy  
8 security and sustainability through partnership and  
9 cooperation. Cooperation between governments on  
10 energy issues will enhance bilateral and regional re-  
11 lationships among countries in the Western Hemi-  
12 sphere. The Western Hemisphere is rich in natural  
13 resources, including biomass, oil, natural gas, and  
14 coal, and there are significant opportunities for the  
15 production of renewable energy, including hydro-  
16 electric, solar, geothermal, and wind power. Coun-  
17 tries in the Western Hemisphere can provide conven-  
18 ient and reliable markets for their own energy needs  
19 and for foreign trade in energy goods and services.

20 (5) Development of sustainable energy alter-  
21 natives in countries in the Western Hemisphere can  
22 improve energy security, balance of trade, and envi-  
23 ronmental quality, and can provide markets for en-  
24 ergy technology and agricultural products.

1           (6) Brazil and the United States have led the  
2 world in the production of ethanol. Deeper coopera-  
3 tion on biofuels with other countries in the hemi-  
4 sphere would extend economic, security, and political  
5 benefits. The Government of the United States has  
6 actively worked with the Government of Brazil to de-  
7 velop a strong biofuels partnership and to increase  
8 the production and use of biofuels. On March 9,  
9 2007, the Memorandum of Understanding Between  
10 the United States and Brazil to Advance Coopera-  
11 tion on Biofuels was signed in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

12           (7) Private sector partnership and investment  
13 in all sources of energy is critical to providing en-  
14 ergy security in the Western Hemisphere. Several  
15 countries in the Western Hemisphere have endan-  
16 gered their investment climate. Other countries in  
17 the Western Hemisphere have been unable to make  
18 reforms necessary to create investment climates nec-  
19 essary to increase the domestic production of energy.

20           (8) It is the policy of the United States to pro-  
21 mote free trade in energy among countries in the  
22 Western Hemisphere, which would—

23                   (A) help support a growing energy indus-  
24                   try;

1 (B) create jobs that benefit development  
2 and alleviate poverty;

3 (C) increase energy security through sup-  
4 ply diversification; and

5 (D) strengthen integration among coun-  
6 tries in the Western Hemisphere through closer  
7 cooperation.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) **BIOFUEL.**—The term “biofuel” means any  
11 liquid fuel that is derived from biomass.

12 (2) **BIOMASS.**—The term “biomass” means any  
13 organic matter that is available on a renewable or  
14 recurring basis, including agricultural crops, trees,  
15 wood, wood wastes and residues, plants (including  
16 aquatic plants), grasses, residues, fibers, animal  
17 wastes, municipal wastes, and other waste materials.

18 (3) **PARTNER COUNTRY.**—The term “partner  
19 country” means a country that has agreed to con-  
20 duct a biofuels feasibility study under section 7.

21 (4) **REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK.**—The  
22 term “regional development bank” means the Afri-  
23 can Development Bank, the Inter-American Develop-  
24 ment Bank, the Andean Development Corporation,

1 the European Bank for Reconstruction and Develop-  
2 ment, and the Asian Development Bank.

3 **SEC. 4. WESTERN HEMISPHERE ENERGY COOPERATION**  
4 **FORUM.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State, in co-  
6 ordination with the Secretary of Energy, shall seek to es-  
7 tablish a ministerial forum with countries in the Western  
8 Hemisphere to be known as the Western Hemisphere En-  
9 ergy Cooperation Forum (in this subsection referred to as  
10 the “Energy Forum”).

11 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Energy Forum  
12 shall be to—

13 (1) strengthen relationships between countries  
14 of the Western Hemisphere through cooperation on  
15 energy issues;

16 (2) enhance cooperation, including information  
17 and technology cooperation, between major energy  
18 producers and major energy consumers in the West-  
19 ern Hemisphere;

20 (3) explore possibilities for countries in the  
21 Western Hemisphere to work together to promote  
22 renewable energy production (particularly in  
23 biofuels) and to lessen dependence on oil imports  
24 without reducing food security;

1           (4) ensure the energy supply is sufficient to fa-  
2           cilitate continued economic, social, and environ-  
3           mental progress in the countries of the Western  
4           Hemisphere;

5           (5) provide an opportunity for open dialogue  
6           and joint commitments among partner countries and  
7           with private industry;

8           (6) provide partner countries the flexibility nec-  
9           essary to cooperatively address broad challenges  
10          posed to the energy supply of the Western Hemi-  
11          sphere and to find solutions that are politically ac-  
12          ceptable and practical in policy terms; and

13          (7) improve transparency in the energy sector.

14          (c) ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of State, together  
15          with the Secretary of Energy, shall seek to implement, in  
16          cooperation with partner countries—

17               (1) an energy crisis initiative that will promote  
18               national and regional measures to respond to tem-  
19               porary energy supply disruptions, including partici-  
20               pation in a Western Hemisphere energy crisis re-  
21               sponse mechanism in accordance with section 9(b);

22               (2) an energy sustainability initiative to facili-  
23               tate the long-term security of the energy supply by  
24               fostering reliable sources of energy and improved en-  
25               ergy efficiency, including—

1 (A) developing, deploying, and commer-  
2 cializing technologies for producing sustainable  
3 renewable energy within the Western Hemi-  
4 sphere;

5 (B) promoting production and trade in  
6 sustainable energy, including energy from bio-  
7 mass;

8 (C) facilitating investment, trade, and  
9 technology cooperation in energy infrastructure,  
10 petroleum products, natural gas (including liq-  
11 uefied natural gas), and energy efficiency (in-  
12 cluding automotive efficiency), cleaner fossil en-  
13 ergy, renewable energy, and carbon sequestra-  
14 tion technologies;

15 (D) promoting regional infrastructure and  
16 market integration;

17 (E) developing effective and stable regu-  
18 latory frameworks;

19 (F) developing policy instruments to en-  
20 courage the use of renewable energy and im-  
21 proved energy efficiency;

22 (G) establishing educational training and  
23 exchange programs between partner countries;

24 (H) identifying and removing barriers to  
25 trade in technology, services, and commodities;



1 (I) promoting dialogue and common meas-  
2 ures of environmental sustainability for energy  
3 practices; and

4 (J) mapping potential energy resources  
5 from hydrocarbons, hydrokinetic, solar, wind,  
6 biomass, and geothermal;

7 (3) an energy for development initiative to pro-  
8 mote energy access for underdeveloped areas  
9 through energy policy and infrastructure develop-  
10 ment, including—

11 (A) increasing access to energy services for  
12 the poor;

13 (B) improving energy sector market condi-  
14 tions;

15 (C) promoting rural development through  
16 biomass and other renewable energy production  
17 and use;

18 (D) increasing transparency of, and par-  
19 ticipation in, energy infrastructure projects;

20 (E) promoting development and deploy-  
21 ment of technology for clean and sustainable  
22 energy development, including biofuel and clean  
23 coal technologies;

24 (F) facilitating the use of carbon seques-  
25 tration methods in agriculture and forestry, in-

1 including facilitating participation in international  
2 carbon markets; and

3 (G) developing microenergy opportunities;

4 (4) a climate change mitigation and adaptation  
5 initiative, including activities such as—

6 (A) coordinating regional public and pri-  
7 vate partnerships for greenhouse gas reduction;

8 (B) identifying opportunities and facili-  
9 tating mechanisms for forest preservation and  
10 reclamation;

11 (C) sharing best practices in energy policy  
12 formulation and execution;

13 (D) identifying areas at severe risk for cli-  
14 mate change, such as drought, flooding, and  
15 other environmental phenomena that could lead  
16 to crisis;

17 (E) identifying areas in need of agricul-  
18 tural innovation to prepare for climate change,  
19 including using biotechnology where appro-  
20 priate; and

21 (F) cataloging greenhouse gas emissions in  
22 the Western Hemisphere, including private sec-  
23 tor reporting; and

1           (5) the increase use of biofuels based on the  
2 studies provided by each partner country under sec-  
3 tion 7.

4           (d) IMPLEMENTATION.—It is the sense of Congress  
5 that—

6           (1) all partner countries should meet at least  
7 once every year;

8           (2) partner countries should meet on a sub-  
9 regional basis, as needed; and

10           (3) civil society, indigenous populations, and  
11 private industry representatives should be integral to  
12 the activities of the Energy Forum.

13           (e) WESTERN HEMISPHERE ENERGY INDUSTRY  
14 GROUP.—

15           (1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of State, in  
16 coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and  
17 the Secretary of Energy, shall seek to establish a  
18 Western Hemisphere Energy Industry Group (in  
19 this subsection referred to as the “Energy Group”)  
20 within the Energy Forum. The Energy Group should  
21 include representatives from industry and govern-  
22 ments in the Western Hemisphere.

23           (2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Energy  
24 Group are to—

25           (A) increase public-private partnerships;

1 (B) foster private investment;

2 (C) enable countries in the Western Hemi-  
3 sphere to devise energy agendas that are com-  
4 patible with industry capacity and cognizant of  
5 industry goals; and

6 (D) promote transparency in financial  
7 flows in the extractive industries in accordance  
8 with the principles of the Extractive Industries  
9 Transparency Initiative.

10 (3) DISCUSSION TOPICS.—It is the sense of  
11 Congress that the Energy Group should—

12 (A) promote a secure investment climate;

13 (B) research and deploy biofuels and other  
14 alternative fuels and clean electrical production  
15 facilities, including clean coal and carbon cap-  
16 ture and storage;

17 (C) develop and deploy energy efficient  
18 technologies and practices in the industrial, res-  
19 idential, and transportation sectors;

20 (D) invest in oil and natural gas produc-  
21 tion and distribution;

22 (E) maintain transparency of data relating  
23 to energy production, trade, consumption, and  
24 reserves;

25 (F) promote biofuels research; and

1 (G) establish training and education ex-  
2 change programs.

3 (f) OIL AND NATURAL GAS WORKING GROUP.—

4 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State  
5 and the Secretary of Energy shall seek to establish  
6 an Oil and Gas Working Group within the Energy  
7 Forum or the Energy Group.

8 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Oil and Gas  
9 Working Group shall be to strengthen dialogue be-  
10 tween international oil companies, national oil com-  
11 panies, and civil society groups on issues relating to  
12 international standards on transparency, social re-  
13 sponsibility, and best practices in leasing and man-  
14 agement of oil and natural gas projects.

15 (g) APPROPRIATION.—There are authorized to be ap-  
16 propriated to the Secretary of State \$6,000,000 for fiscal  
17 year 2010 to carry out this section.

18 **SEC. 5. UNITED STATES-BRAZIL BIOFUELS PARTNERSHIP.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in coordi-  
20 nation with the Secretary of Energy, shall work with the  
21 Government of Brazil to—

22 (1) coordinate efforts to promote the production  
23 and use of biofuels among countries in the Western  
24 Hemisphere, giving preference to those countries

1 that are among the poorest and most dependent on  
2 petroleum imports, including—

3 (A) coordinating the biofuels feasibility  
4 studies described in section 7;

5 (B) collaborating on policy and regulatory  
6 measures to—

7 (i) promote domestic biofuels produc-  
8 tion and use, including related agricultural  
9 and environmental measures;

10 (ii) reform the transportation sector  
11 to increase the use of biofuels, increase ef-  
12 ficiency, reduce emissions, and integrate  
13 the use of advanced technologies; and

14 (iii) reform fueling infrastructure to  
15 allow for the use of biofuels and other al-  
16 ternative fuels;

17 (2) invite the European Union, China, India,  
18 South Africa, Japan, and other interested countries  
19 to join in and expand existing international efforts  
20 to promote the development of a global strategy to  
21 create global biofuels markets and promote biofuels  
22 production and use in developing countries;

23 (3) assess the feasibility of working with the  
24 World Bank and relevant regional development  
25 banks regarding—

- 1 (A) biofuels production capabilities; and  
2 (B) infrastructure, research, and training  
3 related to such capabilities; and  
4 (4) develop a joint and coordinated strategy re-  
5 garding the construction and retrofitting of pipelines  
6 and terminals near major fuel distribution centers,  
7 coastal harbors, and railroads.

8 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
9 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State  
10 \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 to carry out this section.

11 **SEC. 6. INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION PRO-**  
12 **GRAMS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall  
14 work with the Government of Brazil, the Government of  
15 Canada, and other governments of partner countries, to  
16 facilitate joint agricultural extension activities related to  
17 biofuels crop production, biofuels production, and the  
18 measurement and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

19 (b) EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.—The Secretary of En-  
20 ergy, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the  
21 Secretary of Agriculture, and in collaboration with the  
22 Government of Brazil, shall establish a grant program to  
23 finance advanced biofuels research and collaboration be-  
24 tween academic and research institutions in the United  
25 States and Brazil.

1 (c) FUNDING SOURCES.—

2 (1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

3 There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal  
4 year 2010—

5 (A) to the Secretary of Agriculture,  
6 \$10,000,000 to carry out subsection (a); and

7 (B) to the Secretary of Energy,  
8 \$14,000,000 to carry out subsection (b).

9 (2) SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING SOURCES.—The  
10 Secretary of State shall work with the Government  
11 of Brazil, the government of each partner country,  
12 regional development banks, the Organization of  
13 American States, and other interested parties to  
14 identify supplemental funding sources for the  
15 biofuels feasibility studies described in section 7.

16 **SEC. 7. BIOFUELS FEASIBILITY STUDIES.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in con-  
18 sultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall work with  
19 each partner country to conduct a study to determine the  
20 feasibility of increasing the production and use of biofuels  
21 in each such country.

22 (b) ANALYSIS OF THE ENERGY POLICY FRAME-  
23 WORK.—The study conducted under subsection (a) shall  
24 analyze—



1           (1) the energy policy of the partner country,  
2           particularly the impact of such policy on the pro-  
3           motion of biofuels; and

4           (2) the status and impact of any existing  
5           biofuels programs of the country.

6           (c) ASSESSMENT OF DEMAND.—The study conducted  
7           under subsection (a) shall assess, with respect to the part-  
8           ner country—

9           (1) the quantitative and qualitative current and  
10          projected demand for energy by families, villages, in-  
11          dustries, public transportation infrastructure, and  
12          other energy consumers;

13          (2) the future demand for heat, electricity, and  
14          transportation;

15          (3) the demand for high-quality transportation  
16          fuel;

17          (4) the local market prices for various energy  
18          sources; and

19          (5) the employment, income generation, and  
20          rural development opportunities from the biofuels in-  
21          dustry.

22          (d) ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES.—The study con-  
23          ducted under subsection (a) shall—

24          (1) assess the present and future biomass re-  
25          sources that are available in each geographic region

1 of the partner country to meet the demand assessed  
2 under subsection (c);

3 (2) include a plan for increasing the availability  
4 of existing biomass resources in the country; and

5 (3) include a plan for developing new, sustain-  
6 able biomass resources in the country, including  
7 wood, manure, agricultural residues, sewage, and or-  
8 ganic waste.

9 (e) ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGIES SYS-  
10 TEMS.—Based on the assessments described in sub-  
11 sections (c) and (d), the study for each partner country  
12 shall—

13 (1) analyze available technologies and systems  
14 for using biofuels in the country, including—

15 (A) converting biomass crops and agro-  
16 forestry residues into pellets and briquettes;

17 (B) using low-pollution stoves;

18 (C) engaging in biogas production;

19 (D) engaging in charcoal and activated  
20 coal production;

21 (E) engaging in biofuels production;

22 (F) using combustion and co-combustion  
23 technologies; and

24 (G) using biofuels technologies in various  
25 geographic regions;

1           (2) analyze the economic viability of biomass  
2 technologies in the country; and

3           (3) compare the technologies and systems in the  
4 country relating to biofuels with the technologies  
5 and systems for conventional energy supplies to de-  
6 termine if biofuels technology is cost-effective, low-  
7 maintenance, and socially acceptable, and the impact  
8 of biofuels on economic development.

9           (f) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.—The study con-  
10 ducted by each partner country under subsection (a) shall  
11 assess—

12           (1) the probable environmental impact of in-  
13 creased biomass harvesting and production, and  
14 biofuels production and use; and

15           (2) the availability of financing for biofuels  
16 from global carbon credit trading mechanisms.

17           (g) FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT.—The study con-  
18 ducted by each partner country under subsection (a) shall  
19 assess the potential impact on food stocks and prices in  
20 the partner country.

21           (h) DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY OPTIONS TO PRO-  
22 MOTE BIOFUELS PRODUCTION AND USE.—

23           (1) IN GENERAL.—The study conducted by  
24 each partner country under subsection (a) shall  
25 identify and evaluate policy options to promote

1 biofuels production and use, after taking into ac-  
2 count—

3 (A) the existing energy policy of the coun-  
4 try; and

5 (B) the technologies available to convert  
6 local biomass resources into biofuels in the  
7 country.

8 (2) COORDINATION.—In conducting the evalua-  
9 tion under paragraph (1), the partner country shall  
10 provide for participation of local, national, and inter-  
11 national public, civil society, and private institutions  
12 that have responsibility or expertise in biofuels pro-  
13 duction and use.

14 (3) PRINCIPAL ISSUES.—The study shall ad-  
15 dress with respect to the partner country—

16 (A) the potential of biomass in the country  
17 and the barriers to the production of biofuels  
18 from such biomass products;

19 (B) the strategies for creating a market  
20 for biomass products;

21 (C) the potential contribution biofuels have  
22 in reducing fossil fuel consumption;

23 (D) environmental sustainability issues and  
24 policy options and the mitigating effect on car-  
25 bon emissions of increased biofuels production;

1 (E) the potential contribution biofuels have  
2 on economic development, poverty reduction,  
3 and sustainability of energy resources;

4 (F) programs for the use of biofuels in the  
5 transportation sector;

6 (G) economic cooperation across inter-  
7 national borders to increase biofuels production  
8 and use;

9 (H) the potential for technological collabo-  
10 ration and joint ventures for biofuels and the  
11 technological, cultural, and legal barriers that  
12 may impede such collaboration and joint ven-  
13 tures; and

14 (I) the economic aspects of the promotion  
15 of biofuels, including job creation, financing and  
16 loan mechanisms, credit mobilization, invest-  
17 ment capital, and market penetration.

18 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
19 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State  
20 \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 to carry out this section.

21 **SEC. 8. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.**

22 The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the  
23 United States Executive Director to each regional develop-  
24 ment bank and inform the public that it is the policy of  
25 the United States that assistance provided by such bank

1 should encourage development of renewable energy  
2 sources, including energy derived from biomass. In coordi-  
3 nation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of  
4 Energy, the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide infor-  
5 mation regarding progress in the development of renew-  
6 able energy sources, including energy derived from bio-  
7 mass. The information shall be included in the annual re-  
8 port to Congress required by section 13 on the implemen-  
9 tation of this Act.

10 **SEC. 9. CARBON CREDIT TRADING MECHANISMS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall work  
12 with interested governments in the Western Hemisphere  
13 and other countries to facilitate regional and hemispheric  
14 carbon trading mechanisms consistent with the United  
15 Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and  
16 existing trade and financial agreements to—

17 (1) establish credits for the preservation of  
18 tropical forests;

19 (2) use greenhouse gas-reducing agricultural  
20 practices;

21 (3) jointly fund greenhouse gas sequestration  
22 studies and experiments in various geological forma-  
23 tions; and

24 (4) jointly fund climate mitigation studies in  
25 vulnerable areas in the Western Hemisphere.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
2 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State  
3 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 to carry out this section.

4 **SEC. 10. ENERGY CRISIS RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
6 ings:

7 (1) Cooperation between the United States Gov-  
8 ernment and the governments of other countries  
9 during an energy crisis promotes the national secu-  
10 rity of the United States and of the other countries.

11 (2) Credible contingency plans to respond to en-  
12 ergy shortages may serve as a deterrent to the ma-  
13 nipulation of energy supplies by export and transit  
14 countries.

15 (3) The vulnerability of most countries in the  
16 Western Hemisphere to supply disruptions from po-  
17 litical, natural, or terrorism causes may introduce  
18 instability in the Western Hemisphere and can be a  
19 source of conflict, despite the existence of major en-  
20 ergy resources in the Western Hemisphere. The  
21 United States and Canada are the only members of  
22 the International Energy Program in the Western  
23 Hemisphere.

24 (4) Regional and international agreements for  
25 the management of energy emergencies in the West-

1       ern Hemisphere will benefit market stability and en-  
2       courage development in participating countries.

3       (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENERGY CRISIS RE-  
4       SPONSE MECHANISM FOR THE WESTERN HEMI-  
5       SPHERE.—

6               (1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of State, in  
7       coordination with the Secretary of Energy, shall im-  
8       mediately seek to establish a Western Hemisphere  
9       energy crisis response mechanism (in this subsection  
10      referred to as the “mechanism”).

11              (2) SCOPE.—The mechanism established under  
12      paragraph (1) shall include—

13                   (A) real-time information sharing and a  
14      coordination mechanism to respond to energy  
15      supply emergencies in the Western Hemisphere;

16                   (B) technical assistance in the development  
17      and management of national and regional stra-  
18      tegic energy reserves in the Western Hemi-  
19      sphere;

20                   (C) the promotion of increased energy in-  
21      frastructure integration between countries in  
22      the Western Hemisphere;

23                   (D) emergency demand restraint measures  
24      in the Western Hemisphere;



1           (E) the development of the ability of coun-  
2 tries in the Western Hemisphere to switch en-  
3 ergy sources and to switch to alternative energy  
4 production capacity;

5           (F) energy demand intensity reduction pro-  
6 grams as measured by energy consumption per  
7 unit of economic activity; and

8           (G) measures to strengthen sea lanes and  
9 infrastructure security in the Western Hemi-  
10 sphere.

11       (3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary shall seek to  
12 include in the mechanism each major energy pro-  
13 ducer and major energy consumer in the Western  
14 Hemisphere and other members of the Energy  
15 Forum established pursuant to section 4(a).

16       (4) STUDY.—The Secretary of Energy shall—

17           (A) conduct a study of supply vulnerability  
18 relating to natural gas in the Western Hemi-  
19 sphere; and

20           (B) submit a report to the Committee on  
21 Foreign Relations and the Committee on En-  
22 ergy and Natural Resources of the Senate and  
23 the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
24 Committee on Energy and Commerce of the  
25 House of Representatives that includes rec-

1           ommendations for infrastructure and regulatory  
2           needs for reducing supply disruption vulner-  
3           ability and international coordination.

4           (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
5 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy  
6 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 to carry out this section.

7 **SEC. 11. ENERGY FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.**

8           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the United  
9 States Agency for International Development (in this sec-  
10 tion referred to as the “Administrator”) shall seek to in-  
11 crease United States foreign assistance for renewable en-  
12 ergy, including assistance for activities to reduce depend-  
13 ence on imported energy by switching to biofuels.

14           (b) DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY REVIEW.—The Ad-  
15 ministrator shall—

16               (1) review country assistance strategies and  
17               make recommendations to increase assistance for re-  
18               newable energy activities; and

19               (2) submit the results of the review conducted  
20               under paragraph (1) to the Committee on Foreign  
21               Relations and the Committee on Energy and Nat-  
22               ural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on  
23               Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Energy and  
24               Commerce of the House of Representatives not later

1 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of  
2 this Act.

3 (c) EXPEDITED SUSTAINABLE ENERGY GRANTS.—

4 (1) AUTHORIZATION.—The Administrator is  
5 authorized to award grants to nongovernmental or-  
6 ganizations for sustainable energy and job creation  
7 projects in at-risk nations, such as Haiti. Applica-  
8 tions for grants shall be submitted in such form and  
9 in such manner as the Administrator determines and  
10 grants shall be awarded on an expedited basis upon  
11 approval of the application.

12 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

13 There is authorized to be appropriated to the United  
14 States Agency for International Development  
15 \$10,000,000 to provide grants under this subsection.

16 **SEC. 12. ENERGY PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.**

17 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
18 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State  
19 \$5,000,000 for public diplomacy activities relating to re-  
20 newable energy in the Western Hemisphere.

21 (b) LIMITATION.—Not less than 50 percent of any  
22 amount appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be  
23 used for education activities implemented through civil so-  
24 ciety organizations.

1 **SEC. 13. REPORT.**

2       The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Sec-  
3 retary of Energy, shall submit an annual report to Con-  
4 gress on the activities carried out to implement this Act.

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