

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1687

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the preservation and interpretation of the historic sites of the Manhattan Project for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 30 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 29), 2003

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mrs. MURRAY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the preservation and interpretation of the historic sites of the Manhattan Project for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Manhattan Project Na-
5 tional Historical Park Study Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) the Manhattan Project, the World War II
2 effort to develop and construct the world’s first
3 atomic bomb, represents an extraordinary era of
4 American and world history that—

5 (A) included remarkable achievements in
6 science and engineering made possible by inno-
7 vative partnerships among Federal agencies,
8 universities, and private industries; and

9 (B) culminated in a transformation of the
10 global society by ushering in the atomic age;

11 (2) the Manhattan Project was an unprece-
12 dented \$2,200,000,000, 3-year, top-secret effort that
13 employed approximately 130,000 men and women at
14 its peak;

15 (3) the Manhattan Project sites contain historic
16 resources that are crucial for the interpretation of
17 the Manhattan Project, including facilities in—

18 (A) Oak Ridge, Tennessee (where the first
19 uranium enrichment facilities and pilot-scale
20 nuclear reactor were built);

21 (B) Hanford, Washington (where the first
22 large-scale reactor for producing plutonium was
23 built);

24 (C) Los Alamos, New Mexico (where the
25 atomic bombs were designed and built); and

1 (D) Trinity Site, New Mexico (where the
2 explosion of the first nuclear device took place);

3 (4) the Secretary of the Interior has recognized
4 the national significance in American history of
5 Manhattan Project facilities in the study area by—

6 (A) designating the Los Alamos Scientific
7 Laboratory in the State of New Mexico as a
8 National Historic Landmark in 1965 and add-
9 ing the Laboratory to the National Register of
10 Historic Places in 1966;

11 (B) designating the Trinity Site on the
12 White Sands Missile Range in the State of New
13 Mexico as a National Historic Landmark in
14 1965 and adding the Site to the National Reg-
15 ister of Historic Places in 1966;

16 (C) designating the X-10 Graphite Reac-
17 tor at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in
18 the State of Tennessee as a National Historic
19 Landmark in 1965 and adding the Reactor to
20 the National Register of Historic Places in
21 1966;

22 (D) adding the Oak Ridge Historic Dis-
23 trict to the National Register of Historic Places
24 in 1991;

1 (E) adding the B Reactor at the Hanford
2 Site in the State of Washington to the National
3 Register of Historic Places in 1992; and

4 (F) by adding the Oak Ridge Turnpike,
5 Bear Creek Road, and Bethel Valley Road
6 Checking Stations in the State of Tennessee to
7 the National Register of Historic Places in
8 1992;

9 (5) the Hanford Site has been nominated by
10 the Richland Operations Office of the Department of
11 Energy and the Washington State Historic Preser-
12 vation Office for addition to the National Register of
13 Historic Places;

14 (6) a panel of experts convened by the Advisory
15 Council on Historic Preservation in 2001 reported
16 that the development and use of the atomic bomb
17 during World War II has been called “the single
18 most significant event of the 20th century” and rec-
19 ommended that various sites be formally established
20 “as a collective unit administered for preservation,
21 commemoration, and public interpretation in co-
22 operation with the National Park Service”;

23 (7) the Advisory Council on Historic Preserva-
24 tion reported in 2001 that the preservation and in-
25 terpretation of the historic sites of the Manhattan

1 Project offer significant value as destinations for do-
2 mestic and international tourists; and

3 (8) preservation and interpretation of the Man-
4 hattan Project historic sites are necessary for
5 present and future generations to fully appreciate
6 the extraordinary undertaking and complex con-
7 sequences of the Manhattan Project.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
11 the Secretary of the Interior.

12 (2) STUDY.—The term “study” means the
13 study authorized by section 4(a).

14 (3) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
15 means the following Manhattan Project sites:

16 (A) Los Alamos National Laboratory and
17 townsite in the State of New Mexico.

18 (B) The Trinity Site on the White Sands
19 Missile Range in the State of New Mexico.

20 (C) The Hanford Site in the State of
21 Washington.

22 (D) Oak Ridge Laboratory in the State of
23 Tennessee.

1 (E) Other significant sites relating to the
2 Manhattan Project determined by the Secretary
3 to be appropriate for inclusion in the study.

4 **SEC. 4. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

5 (a) STUDY.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct
7 a special resource study of the study area to assess
8 the national significance, suitability, and feasibility
9 of designating the various historic sites and struc-
10 tures of the study area as a unit of the National
11 Park System in accordance with section 8(c) of Pub-
12 lic Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)).

13 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—In conducting the
14 study, the Secretary shall—

15 (A) consult with the Secretary of Energy,
16 the Secretary of Defense, State, tribal, and
17 local officials, representatives of interested or-
18 ganizations, and members of the public; and

19 (B) evaluate, in coordination with the Sec-
20 retary of Energy and the Secretary of Defense,
21 the compatibility of designating the study area,
22 or 1 or more parts of the study area, as a na-
23 tional historical park or national historic site
24 with maintaining security, productivity and
25 management goals of the Department of En-

1 ergy and the Department of Defense, and pub-
2 lic health and safety.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
4 on which funds are made available to carry out the study,
5 the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that de-
6 scribes the findings of the study and any conclusions and
7 recommendations of the Secretary.

8 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
10 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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