



State of Louisiana

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Federal Update

*Will Congress act this year on
Approps, WRDA, revenue sharing,
or disaster aid?*

House, Senate Pass their WRDA Versions

On July 22, the House passed its version of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), [H.R. 8812](#), by a 359 - 13 vote.

On August 1, the Senate passed its WRDA, [S. 4367](#), unanimously.

The Committees of Jurisdiction are informally conferencing the two bills together, seeking to produce a consensus product for final passage this year.

Key Wins

- Authorize construction of St. Tammany Flood Risk Management project
- Authorize study of Lake Pontchartrain Storm Surge Reduction
- Modify Alexandria to the Gulf study boundaries
- Connect Upper Barataria Basin to Morganza to the Gulf

Key Provisions to finalize

- Include HSRDSS Payback clarification
- Extend excess credit authority
- Crediting for Morganza prior work
- Force USACE to take on OMRR&R for Algiers
- Adopt report on minimum real estate
- Provide funding path for Pointe Celeste Pump Station
- Chose optimal report on Larose to Golden Meadows
- Extend authority to rehabilitate existing levees (HSDRRS) to maintain 100 year risk reduction
- GAO study on indemnification and indefinite OMRR&R for project partnership agreements



Senate Committee to Vote on RISEE Act



BILL U.S. Senator for Louisiana
CASSIDY, M.D.

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AUGUST 6, 2024

ICYMI: SENATORS PLAN TO CONSIDER CASSIDY COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE REVENUE SHARING MEASURE IN SEPTEMBER HEARING

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will markup legislation by U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-LA) to improve and enhance offshore revenue sharing in September. The Washington Examiner broke the news that the Committee will include the [Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies & Ecosystems \(RISEE\) Act](#) in their next business meeting.

“A pair of senators is planning to advance a coastal infrastructure bill at a hearing next month,” wrote the Washington Examiner.

“The RISEE Act would direct revenue streams from offshore and onshore energy projects to states to use for coastal restoration and conservation,” continued the Washington Examiner.



SHORES Meetings with Committee Members

Dem. Member	SHORES Meeting?	Rep. Member	SHORES Meeting?
Chairman Manchin (WV)	Yes, 2022	Sen. Barrasso (WY)	Yes, 2022
Sen Wyden (OR)	Yes, 2022	Sen. Risch (ID)	Yes, 2022
Sen. Cantwell (WA)		Sen. Lee (UT)	Yes, 2022 & 2024
Sen. Sanders (VT)		*Sen. Daines (MT)	
*Sen. Heinrich (NM)		Sen. Murkowski (AK)	
Sen. Hirono (HI)		Sen. Hoeven (ND)	Yes, 2022
*Sen. King (ME)	Yes, 2024	*Sen. Cassidy (LA)	Yes, 2022 - 2024
Sen. Cortez Masto (NV)		Sen. Hyde-Smith (MS)	Yes, 2022 - 2024
*Sen. Hickenlooper (CO)		Sen. Hawley (MO)	Yes, 2023 & 2024
*Sen. Padilla (CA)			

Sen. Hawley is the only new member of the Committee since the unanimous voice vote in favor of the RISEE Act in 2022.

*** Indicates cosponsor of S. 373, the RISEE Act**



Outcome of Central Atlantic Wind Lease Sale

Biden-Harris Administration's Central Atlantic Offshore Wind Lease Sale Yields Nearly \$93 Million

Leased areas have the potential to power over 2.2 million homes with clean energy, continuing Administration's historic actions to grow the American offshore wind industry

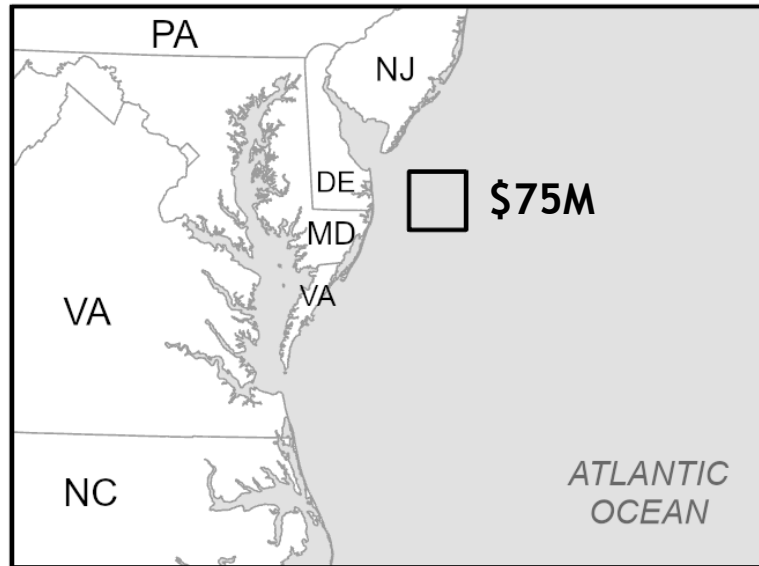
08/14/2024

\$23M of \$93M was offered in the form of bidding credits for workforce, supply chain, and fisheries mitigation.

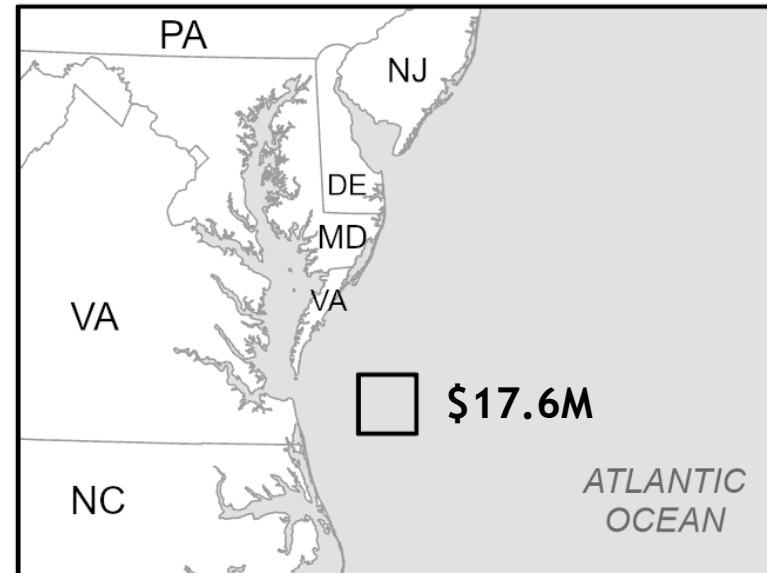
Therefore, only \$70M available for revenue sharing.

Upcoming Offshore Wind Lease Sales

- Oregon
Oct. 15
- Gulf of Maine
Oct. 29



- Equinor Wind US provisionally won 101,443 acres with a \$75 million bid, showing a value of \$739 an acre. \$56.2 million in cash.

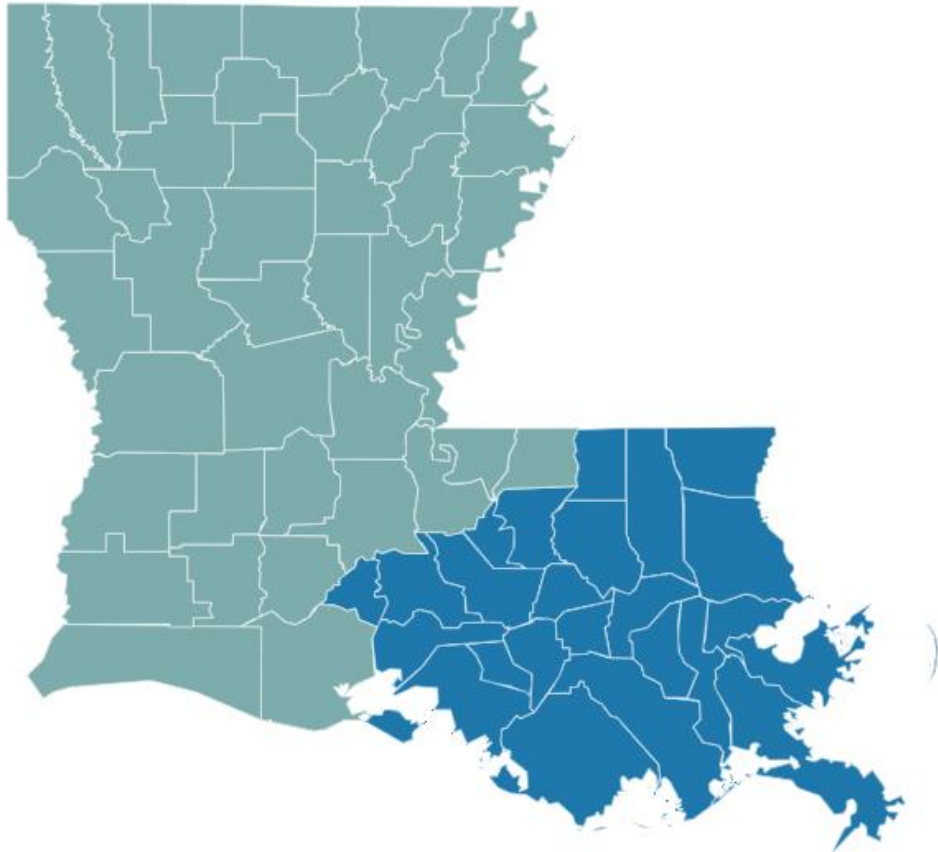


- Virginia Electric and Power Co. provisionally won 176,505 acres with a \$17.65 million bid, showing a value of \$100 an acre. \$13.2 million in cash.



Federal Response to Hurricane Francine

Parishes with pending FEMA individual & public assistance requests after Hurricane Francine



Disaster Request Timeline

- Sept. 9 - Gov. Landry declares state of emergency.
- Sept. 10 - Gov. Landry requests federal emergency declaration for emergency protective measures and direct federal assistance in advance of Tropical Storm Francine for all parishes. Louisiana's federal delegation sends letter to President Biden in support of the Governor's request.
- Sept. 11 - President Biden approves emergency declaration for Louisiana.
- Sept. 12 - Governor and federal delegation request expedited major disaster declaration for Hurricane Francine for 23 parishes to provide individual and public assistance, as well as statewide hazard mitigation, and 100% federal cost share for Categories A & B for 30 days.



Continuing Resolution Proposed

FY2025 begins on October 1. Without action, the government will shutdown.

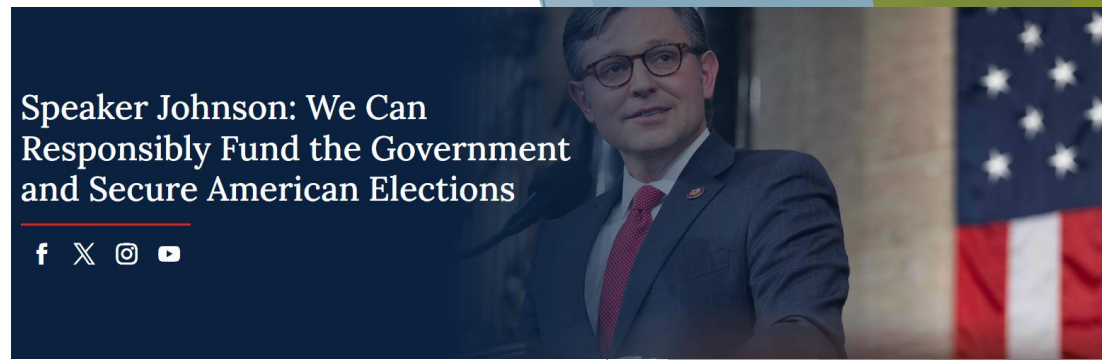
Congress is not ready to pass the 12 individual appropriations bills by September 30 (Congress has not met that deadline since 1996).

Hence, a continuing resolution of some duration will be needed to keep the government open at FY24 spending levels until the full appropriations bills are passed.

Speaker Johnson proposed a stop-gap continuing resolution through March 23, 2025 with the SAVE Act to deter non-citizen voting, \$10 billion in FEMA disaster aid, and \$2 billion for submarines. FEMA funding was depleted after hurricanes in Texas and Florida, wildfires on the West Coast, and severe storms in the Midwest and Northeast. Enough House Republicans oppose it, so the Speaker has postponed a vote on this package.

Congressional Democrats and the White House support a “clean” continuing resolution, likely to December. That would provide another opportunity to pass FY25 appropriations and other legislation as a “rider.”

Speaker Johnson: We Can
Responsibly Fund the Government
and Secure American Elections



Hearing on Graves' Coastal Protection and Restoration Discussion Draft

- ▶ On Sept. 10, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a [legislative hearing](#) on 5 bills, including [Congressman Graves' discussion draft](#) to require the Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service to establish a coastal restoration and protection grant program.
- ▶ Steve Cochran, former Director of the RESTORE the Mississippi River Delta Coalition [testified](#).
- ▶ The bill would authorize \$500 million a year for ten years for a NOAA Fisheries led program to:
 - ▶ Build levees for hurricane protection
 - ▶ Nature-based solutions
 - ▶ Building oyster or fisheries habitat
 - ▶ Beneficial use of dredged material projects
 - ▶ Barrier island restoration and marsh creation
 - ▶ Vegetative plantings
 - ▶ Habitat restoration
 - ▶ Operations and maintenance of such work

Key Hearing Moments

- [Huffman Comments](#)
- [Graves Intro](#)
- [Cochran Testimony](#)
- [Graves Q&A](#)
- [Huffman Q&A](#)
- [Carl Q&A](#)
- [Bentz Q&A](#)

