

| Project 2025 | Manchin Bill | Explanation (Numbers refer to Project 2025 page numbers) |
|---|---|--|
| Resumes permitting of new LNG exports |  | <p>Project 2025 calls for eliminating “climate-change interference in DOE approvals of liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports” (369) and states that the Department of Energy (DOE) “should not use environmental issues like climate change as a reason to stop LNG projects” (408).</p> <p>The Manchin bill achieves the same end by accelerating the timeframe in which DOE must make decisions about new permits and effectively prohibiting the agency from considering climate change in its decisions.</p> |
| Promotes more onshore oil & gas development |  | <p>Project 2025 calls for reinstatement of the Trump-era policies to hold more oil and gas sales, increase access to more federal lands for oil and gas development, and speed up approval times (Department of Interior (DOI) Secretarial Order 3354). It also calls for DOI regional offices to speed up drilling permit approvals (522-523).</p> <p>The Manchin bill limits the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) ability to protect the environment from new leases, prioritizes oil and gas extraction over other uses, gives the oil and gas industry more control over what leases are offered, extends the life of drilling permits from three to four years, including all those issued up to two years before the bill is passed and those with pending applications when the bill is passed.</p> |
| Promotes more offshore oil & gas development |  | <p>Project 2025 calls for conducting offshore oil and natural gas lease sales to the maximum extent allowed and calls for reforming the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to allow rolling or quarterly lease sales (523).</p> <p>The Manchin bill’s offshore provisions are “a naked give-away to the fossil fuel industry”, mandating additional lease sales in the next five years, forcing accelerated lease approvals, and prohibiting the addition of protective lease restrictions in response to current science.</p> |
| Limits Agency Review, Public Disclosure, and Public Input |  | <p>Project 2025 calls for reinstating Trump-era reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act (521-522), which curtail environmental reviews and imposed limits on when groups could sue under the law. Those reforms enabled countless federal actions to be exempted from environmental review and sharply limited local communities’ ability to participate in the environmental decision-making process. Project 2025 also calls for restoration of BLM’s IM 2018-034 (522), which limited public notice, public comment and protest options and timeframes, and environmental reviews of lease sales by the BLM.</p> <p>The Manchin bill contains severe restrictions on judicial review that, if passed, would prevent stakeholders, local governments, and impacted communities from holding the government accountable. Its inadequate public notice provisions make it more difficult for communities to learn of decisions that affect their health or safety, and it gives communities just a few months to legally challenge decisions. These measures would fall particularly hard on environmental justice communities.</p> |
| Prevents consideration of climate and other issues in federal leases |  | <p>In addition to calling for removal of climate science from consideration of LNG projects and exports, Project 2025 calls for rescinding the Biden Administration’s Secretarial Order 3398, which calls for federal agencies to consider climate impacts in their decision-making. It also calls for reinstatement of several Trump-era executive orders that directed agencies to ignore, weaken or delay consideration of climate, such as SO 3360 (521-522).</p> <p>Manchin’s bill seeks to delay the DOE’s ability to use updated climate impacts analysis in its review of LNG permits, and to prevent the DOI from using the latest science in setting onshore and offshore lease and permit conditions and requirements.</p> |



Sources:

- Center for Western Priorities (<https://westernpriorities.org/2024/07/the-energy-permitting-reform-act-a-wolf-in-sheeps-clothing/>)
- Earthjustice (<https://earthjustice.org/press/2020/trump-administration-guts-national-environmental-policy-act>)
- Symons Public Affairs (<https://www.symonspa.com/post/assessing-the-climate-impacts-of-the-manchin-barrasso-bill-s-lng-title>)
- Union of Concerned Scientists (<https://www.ucusa.org/resources/attacks-on-science/departement-interior-issues-secretarial-order-3360-rescinding-science#>)
- Washington Post (https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/white-house-wants-to-change-rules-to-speed-up-highway-projects-pipelines-drilling/2020/01/08/4e248fda-325a-11ea-9313-6cba89b1b9fb_story.html)