

MAR 15 1995

Laid Over Under Rule 25

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34
2 BY VANDE HOEF, GREIG, SALTON, KLEMME,
3 HUSEMAN, VEENSTRA, MEYER, EDDIE, MUNDIE,
4 BRANSTAD, and DREES

5 A Concurrent Resolution urging the President and the
6 Congress to reject any proposal to sell the power
7 marketing administrations or their assets.

8 WHEREAS, there are five power marketing
9 administrations (PMAs) that supply hydroelectric power
10 from federal dams along the Missouri River and other
11 river systems in the United States supplying
12 electricity to consumer-owned rural electric
13 cooperatives and municipal utilities in 34 states,
14 including Iowa; and

15 WHEREAS, hydroelectric power produced by the PMAs
16 is an important component of supplying electricity for
17 Iowa's rural electric cooperatives and municipal
18 utilities; and

19 WHEREAS, the PMAs market hydroelectric power to
20 these customers at cost-based rates that fully repay
21 the federal government's cost of investment, as well
22 as interest, operation, and maintenance expenses; and

23 WHEREAS, hydroelectric power helps Iowa's farmers,
24 businesses, cities, and government operations keep
25 expenses for electricity lower than they otherwise
26 might be; and

27 WHEREAS, the PMAs supply not only electricity but
28 also produce revenue from power sales which helps pay
29 for irrigation, flood control, navigation, recreation,
30 and wildlife enhancement; and

1 WHEREAS, in its proposed 1996 fiscal year budget,
2 the Clinton Administration proposes selling three of
3 the five PMAs as a way to balance the budget or pay
4 for a middle-class tax break; and

5 WHEREAS, the sale of hydropower assets would
6 threaten rural electric cooperatives and municipal
7 utilities with an uncertainty of power supply and
8 would significantly increase wholesale power costs;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the privatization of Western Area Power
11 Administration and Southwestern Power Administration,
12 the PMAs whose sales would most affect Iowa, could
13 impact retail electric rates of the rural electric
14 cooperatives and municipal utilities in Iowa by an
15 average of 40 to 60 percent; and

16 WHEREAS, the sale of Western Area Power
17 Administration and Southwestern Power Administration
18 in particular would undermine the economic stability
19 of the rural electric cooperatives and municipal
20 utilities in Iowa; and

21 WHEREAS, the Iowa General Assembly is strongly
22 opposed to the sale, transfer, exchange, lease, or
23 other disposition of any of the power marketing
24 administrations or the power plants or related
25 facilities used for the production and transmission of
26 electricity; NOW THEREFORE,

27 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
28 SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly of the
29 State of Iowa urges the President and the Congress of
30 the United States to reject any proposal to sell any

1 of the power marketing administrations or to otherwise
2 dispose of their assets; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
4 resolution be sent to the President of the United
5 States, the President of the United States Senate, the
6 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
7 and to members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

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