

specific scientific backing cited for this decision. Spilling at this increased level can threaten the reliability of the federal power and transmission systems and result in impacts to transportation and barging systems, flood control capabilities, and irrigation systems. Additionally, some scientific studies warn that increased gas levels stemming from the spill ordered by the decision could in fact harm the very fish species the Biological Opinion was developed to protect. Estimates of the cost to the transmission system and ratepayers are approximately \$40 million for 2018 alone.

#### CIVIL WORKS REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL

On July 30, 2018, the Secretary of Defense approved a Secretary of the Army memorandum identifying specific actions the Army will take in support of the Administration's proposed reorganization of the Civil Works program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The proposal includes taking the Civil Works program out of the Corps with navigation going to the Department of Transportation for infrastructure grants and the remaining accounts to the Department of the Interior.

The conferees are opposed to the proposed reorganization as it could ultimately have detrimental impacts for implementation of the Civil Works program and for the numerous non-federal entities that rely on the Corps' technical expertise, including in response to natural disasters.

The conferees are extremely concerned that an action of this magnitude, which crosses multiple jurisdictional lines and has far-reaching consequences, was not properly brought to Congress as a proposal, allowing for oversight and hearings as to its effects. Notification and discussion with Members of Congress and Committee staffs was nonexistent. Further, this type of proposal, as the Department of Defense and the Corps are well aware, will require enactment of legislation, which has neither been proposed nor requested to date. Therefore, no funds provided in this Act or any previous Act to any agency shall be used to implement this proposal.