
Lesson 15

Committee Reports Bills, Acts, Laws

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Objective:

To Provide Familiarization with the Civil Works Legislative Process After the Hearings, the Legislative Documents that Result, and the Significance and Use of Such Documents

Typical Civil Works Acts

- ☉ **Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act**
...By Appropriations Committees
- ☉ **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)**
...By Authorizing Committees

Post Hearing Process

Appropriations

Appropriations and Authorizing Committees

- **Report and Recommend Budget Year Level of Programs to Budget Committees**

Budget Committees

- **Report Concurrent Resolution on the Budget to Their Houses, including Level for Natural Resources, Environment and Energy**

Congress

- **Passes Concurrent Budget Resolution**

Post Hearing Process

(Continued)

All Legislation:

- ☪ Subcommittee Markups to Committees
(Reports and Bills)
- ☪ Committee Reports and Bills
- ☪ Floor Passage
- ☪ Report of Committee on Conference
- ☪ Enactment
- ☪ Approval (or Veto) by President

Document Use

Appropriations:

- ◉ **Read Act Language**
- ◉ **Special Instructions in Conference Report**
- ◉ **Special Instructions in Senate and House Reports**
- ◉ **Read Congressional Record**
- ◉ **Reconcile Differences**
 - **Act Governs**
 - **Conference Report Governs Over House and Senate Reports**
 - **Report Language not in Disagreement**

Document Use

(Continued)

Project Authorizations:

- ⌢ **Note Citations in Act...**
e.g., “as Recommended in the Report of the Chief of Engineers Dated...”
- ⌢ **Check Report of the Chief of Engineers and Recommendations of ASA(CW)/Chief/Division/District**
- ⌢ **Check Reports of...**
 - **Conference/Senate/House for Possible Discussion and Clarification of:**
 - ⌢ **Special Projects**
 - ⌢ **General Authorities**
 - **Clarification or Guidance Sometimes in Hearings Record or Floor Colloquies**

SUMMARY

- ⌚ **Post Congressional Hearing Process**
- ⌚ **Analysis of the Appropriations Act, Reports, and Congressional Record**
- ⌚ **Reconciliation of Differences between House and Senate Documents**