

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
SENATE BILL NO. 1212

By: Maddox, Williams and Capps
of the Senate

and

Askins of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

(renewable energy - Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative -
continuation of funding -
emergency)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 190.30 of Title 17, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature to provide funding for the continuation of the Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative (OWPI) to further the investigation and promotion of wind energy resources in Oklahoma. The OWPI, located in the Environmental Verification and Analysis Center of the University of Oklahoma, and working with other higher education system programs including Oklahoma State University and the Oklahoma Mesonet program, has made great progress in studying the wind energy resources of Oklahoma. With such knowledge Oklahoma has a great advantage in attracting wind power investors which may ultimately result in a multi-billion-dollar industry for the state.

B. With continued funding the OWPI shall:

1. Utilize its resource assessment and information sharing abilities to provide information to Oklahoma companies, in addition to out-of-state wind farm developers, that seek to diversify their energy portfolios;

2. Continue to support and improve software tools that will facilitate studies of specific areas for the potential investors, general public and public officials;

3. Continue economic studies and policy/incentive studies which will further investigate how local, state and national policies may be promoted and utilized to provide the best economic impact for rural landowners and communities;

4. Continue outreach efforts to enhance public and private sector understanding of wind power through more wind power conferences, rural community meetings, K-12 and college education initiatives, Technology Center initiatives, and information for utilities and rural electric cooperatives;

5. Promote research activities at universities to help attract the wind industry to Oklahoma;

6. Leverage state funding to seek federal funding for wind power and other renewable energy research and project development; and

7. Offer assistance to economic development groups in attracting new renewable energy related industry to Oklahoma.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Wind Power Assessment Committee. It shall be the duty of the Committee to analyze data, such as cost and customer support, of the newly operating wind farms located in Oklahoma and make recommendations for legislation to support further development of all zero-emission renewable energy in Oklahoma. The Committee shall study data and input from the

Corporation Commission, the office of the Governor, and utility providers and encourage input from the citizens of this state.

B. The Oklahoma Wind Power Assessment Committee shall consist of:

1. The Governor, or a designee;
2. The Secretary of Environment;
3. A representative appointed by the Oklahoma Renewable Energy Council;
4. The Chair of the Senate Energy, Environment and Communications Committee;
5. The Chair of the House Energy and Utility Regulation Committee;
6. The Chair of the Senate Agriculture and Rural Development Committee;
7. The Chair of the House Agriculture and Rural Development Committee;
8. The Minority Leader of the Oklahoma State Senate;
9. The Minority Leader of the Oklahoma House of Representatives;
10. A representative of the State Energy Office in the Oklahoma Department of Commerce;
11. A representative from each public utility contracting for electric power derived from wind resources; and
12. A Corporation Commissioner or designee, selected by the Chair of the Commission, who shall serve as Chair of the Oklahoma Wind Power Assessment Committee.

C. The Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair, establish a schedule of meetings and make a final report to the Governor and the Legislature no later than December 1, 2004.

D. The participants in the Oklahoma Wind Power Initiative as outlined in Section 1 of this act shall serve as technical advisors to the Oklahoma Wind Power Assessment Committee.

E. Appointments to the Committee shall be made by June 15, 2004, and the first meeting of the Committee shall take place no later than July 1, 2004. Staffing for the Committee shall be provided by the staff of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

F. Members of the Committee shall receive no compensation for serving on the Committee, but may receive travel reimbursement as follows:

1. Legislative members of the Committee may be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, from the legislative body in which they serve; and

2. Other members of the Committee may be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties by their respective agencies in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

G. The Oklahoma Wind Power Assessment Committee shall cease to exist January 1, 2005.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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