

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 2804

By: Reynolds, Harrison and  
Steele of the House

and

Brogdon of the Senate

( waters and water rights - Citizens Lake Committee -  
stating purpose - codification -  
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 900.1 of Title 82, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. For each lake or reservoir in this state that was  
constructed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers there is  
hereby authorized the creation of a Citizens Lake Committee. A  
Committee shall be formed upon the request of the lake association  
that is recognized by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department  
as the official lake association for the respective lake or  
reservoir. The lake association shall submit a request to the  
Governor who shall notify the Speaker of the House of  
Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate of the  
request and the need to appoint members. The Governor, the Speaker  
of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore shall  
each appoint three members for a total of nine (9) members on a  
Committee. The lake association may submit recommendations for  
members of the Committee to the Governor, Speaker of the House of  
Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.  
Members shall reside within the watershed area of the lake or

reservoir and shall represent recreation, tourism, rural and municipal water supplies, agriculture, fish, wildlife, hydroelectric power generation, marinas, and other crucial local water-related economic interests. Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days of the Governor receiving the request.

B. Each Citizens Lake Committee shall be an active oversight committee for monitoring acceptable lake levels, roads, and other conditions affecting the lake or reservoir. Each Committee shall be authorized to make recommendations to the appropriate local, state, and federal officials and agency representatives on issues of importance regarding the management of the lake or reservoir and issues relating to tourism, recreation, agriculture, water supply, wildlife, and other aspects of the local economies associated with the lake or reservoir.

C. Each Citizens Lake Committee shall establish procedures for electing officers, determining meeting times, and providing notice of meetings.

D. Annually, the Governor shall call a meeting of all Citizens Lake Committees in the state and the appropriate local, state, and federal entities.

E. Members appointed to a Citizens Lake Committee shall serve without compensation but shall be eligible for actual and necessary travel reimbursement as provided by the State Travel Reimbursement Act. The Governor shall be responsible for any administrative costs or travel reimbursement pursuant to this act.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 900.2 of Title 82, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created until December 31, 2008, the Task Force on Oklahoma Hydropower. The purpose of the Task Force shall be to study the economic and environmental impact hydropower has in the state and to analyze the comparative value of the beneficial use

of water for generation of electricity versus other beneficial uses. Specifically, the Task Force shall study, hold public hearings, and make recommendations on:

1. The overall impact the use of water for generation of electricity has on the economy of the state and the local economy of areas surrounding the lakes or reservoirs where hydropower facilities are located, including but not limited to the impact on tourism, recreation, and agriculture;

2. The overall impact the use of water for generation of electricity has on the environment of the areas surrounding the lakes or reservoirs where hydropower facilities are located, including the impact on wildlife resources;

3. The type of hydrological and geohydrological studies that need to be conducted for lakes and reservoirs on which hydropower facilities are located; and

4. The assessment of a fee for the use of water for the generation of electricity.

B. The Task Force shall be composed of thirteen (13) members as follows:

1. One member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

2. One member of the State Senate to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

3. One member representing the Corporation Commission selected by the Corporation Commission;

4. The Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board or a designee;

5. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department or a designee;

6. The General Manager of the Grand River Dam Authority or a designee;

7. Two members appointed by the Governor, as follows:

- a. one representative of the Oklahoma Municipal League,  
and
- b. one representative of a rural electric cooperative  
which purchases electricity generated by a hydropower  
facility in the state;

8. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as follows:

- a. one from a lake association that is recognized by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department as the official lake association of a lake or reservoir on which there are hydropower facilities, and
- b. one representative of a permitted user of water from a lake or reservoir on which a hydropower facility is located;

9. Two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as follows:

- a. one from a lake association that is recognized by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department as the official lake association of a lake or reservoir on which there are hydropower facilities; and
- b. one representative of a permitted user of water from a lake or reservoir on which a hydropower facility is located; and

10. One member representing the Oklahoma Water Resources Research Institute located at Oklahoma State University.

C. The first meeting of the Task Force shall be convened by the Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. At the first meeting, members of the Task Force shall select cochaIRS of the Task Force. The Task Force shall meet at the call of either cochaIRS.

D. Staffing assistance for the Task Force shall be provided by the staff of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. Technical assistance for the Task Force shall be provided by the Oklahoma

Water Resources Board, the Oklahoma Geological Survey, and the Corporation Commission.

E. The Task Force shall present a written report of findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor by December 31, 2008.

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

1. Legislative members of the Task Force may be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of 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 Task Force may be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of duties by the respective agency or appointing authorities in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

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.

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of March, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate