

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 827

By: Schulz and Marlatt of the
Senate

and

Blackwell of the House

An Act relating to the Corporation Commission; authorizing the Commission to contract for an electric transmission system advisor; stating duties of employee; providing for salary; stating limitation for certain contracts; authorizing Commission to solicit for advice from interested parties; authorizing Commission to promulgate rules; providing for noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. In an effort to provide safe, reliable and economical electric energy to all the citizens of this state and promote the development of transmission infrastructure necessary to support expansion of wind energy facilities, the Corporation Commission is authorized to employ one person to serve as a senior-level electric transmission system advisor to the Commission for the purpose of monitoring state, regional and federal activities relating to access to and reliability of the electric transmission system. In addition to any other duties specified by the Commission, the advisor shall attend and participate in meetings of the Southwest Power Pool, the regional transmission organization governing electric transmission service for this state, to advocate on behalf of the citizens of this state and report to the Corporation Commission on all issues relating to electric power transmission in this state.

B. The Commission's Director of Administration shall determine the duties and qualifications necessary for the electric transmission advisor and determine appropriate compensation. The Commission is authorized to utilize an existing FTE position or may enter into a contract with any person or firm for this purpose. Contracts authorized by this act shall be sole source contracts and shall not be subject to competitive bidding requirements. Contracts shall not exceed one (1) year in duration. The Commission may terminate any contract for cause as it deems necessary and may contract for services for less than one (1) year as it desires. The Commission is authorized to contract for electric transmission advisor services pursuant to the provisions of this act for five (5) years following the effective date of this act.

C. The Commission may solicit advice from any agency, public utility, or related interest group relating to the provisions of this act.

D. The Commission is authorized to promulgate any rules necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 2. 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 Senate the 13th day of May, 2009.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of May, 2009.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives