STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

HOUSE BILL 2577 By: DeWitt

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to revenue and taxation; amending 68 O.S. 2001, Section 3603, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 369, O.S.L. 2009 (68 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 3603), which relates to the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act; modifying definitions; providing for certain alternative energy business activities as eligible establishments; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2001, Section 3603, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 369, O.S.L. 2009 (68 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 3603), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3603. A. As used in Section 3601 et seq. of this title:

1. a. "Basic industry" means:

(1) those manufacturing activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Sector Nos. 31, 32 and 33, Industry Group No. 5111 or Industry No. 11331,

(2) those electric power generation, transmission and distribution activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry Nos. 221111 through 221122, if:

(a) an establishment engaged therein qualifies as an exempt wholesale generator as defined by 15 U.S.C., Section 79z-5a,

(b) the exempt wholesale generator facility consumes from sources located within the state at least ninety percent (90%) of the total energy used to produce the electrical output which qualifies for the specialized treatment provided by the Energy Policy Act of 1992, P.L. 102-486, 106 Stat. 2776, as amended, and federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto,

(c) the exempt wholesale generator facility sells to purchasers located outside the state for consumption in activities located outside the state at least ninety percent (90%) of the total electrical energy output which qualifies for the specialized treatment provided by the Energy Policy Act of 1992, P.L. 102-486, 106 Stat. 2776, as

amended, and federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and

(d) the facility is constructed on or after July 1, 1996,

(3) those administrative and facilities support service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group Nos. 5611 and 5612, Industry Nos. 51821, 519130, 52232, 56142 and 54191 or U.S. Industry Nos. 524291 and 551114, and those other support activities for air transportation defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 488190,

(4) those professional, scientific and technical service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry Nos. 541710 and 541380,

(5) distribution centers for retail or wholesale businesses defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Sector No. 42, if forty percent (40%) or more of the inventory processed through such warehouse is shipped out-of-state,

(6) those adjustment and collection service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 561440, if

seventy-five percent (75%) of the loans to be serviced were made by out-of-state debtors,

(7) (a) those air transportation activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 4811, if the following facilities are located in this state:

(i) the corporate headquarters of an establishment classified therein, and

(ii) a facility or facilities at which reservations for transportation provided by such an establishment are processed, whether such services are performed by employees of the establishment, by employees of a subsidiary of or other entity affiliated with the establishment or by employees of an entity with whom the establishment has contracted for the performance of such services; provided, this provision shall not disqualify an establishment which uses an out-of-state entity or employees for some reservations services, or

(b) those air transportation activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 4811, if an establishment classified therein has or will have within one (1) year sales of at least seventy-five percent (75%) of its total sales, as determined by the Incentive Approval Committee pursuant to the provisions of subsection B of this section, to out-of-state customers or buyers, to in-state customers or buyers if the product or service is resold by the purchaser to an out-of-state customer or buyer for ultimate use, or to the federal government,

(8) flight training services activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry Group No. 611512, which for purposes of Section 3601 et seq. of this title shall include new direct jobs for which gross payroll existed on or after January 1, 2003, as identified in the NAICS Manual,

(9) the following, if an establishment classified therein has or will have within one (1) year sales of at least seventy-five percent (75%) of

its total sales, as determined by the Incentive Approval Committee pursuant to the provisions of subsection B of this section, to out-of-state customers or buyers, to in-state customers or buyers if the product or service is resold by the purchaser to an out-of-state customer or buyer for ultimate use, or to the federal government:

(a) those transportation and warehousing activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Subsector No. 493, if not otherwise listed in this paragraph, Industry Subsector No. 484 and Industry Group Nos. 4884 through 4889,

(b) those passenger transportation activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Nos. 561510, 561520 and 561599,

(c) those freight or cargo transportation activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry No. 541614,

(d) those insurance activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 5241,

(e) those mailing, reproduction, commercial art and photography and stenographic service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry Nos. 541430, 541860, 541922, 561439 and 561492,

(f) those services to dwellings and other buildings, as defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 5617, excluding U.S. Industry No. 561730,

(g) those equipment rental and leasing activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group Nos. 5323 and 5324,

(h) those employment services defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 5613,

(i) those information technology and other computer-related service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group Nos. 5112, 5182, 5191 and 5415,

(j) those business support service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry Nos. 561410 through

561439, Industry Group No. 5616 and Industry No. 51911,

(k) those medical and diagnostic laboratory activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 6215,

(l) those professional, scientific and technical service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group Nos. 5412, 5414, 5415, 5416 and 5417, Industry Nos. 54131, 54133, 54136, 54137 and 54182, and U.S. Industry No. 541990, if not otherwise listed in this paragraph,

(m) those communication service activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Nos. 51741 and 51791,

(n) those refuse systems activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 5622, provided that the establishment is primarily engaged in the capture and distribution of methane gas produced within a landfill,

(o) general wholesale distribution of groceries, defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group Nos. 4244 and 4245,

(p) those activities relating to processing of insurance claims, defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry Nos. 524210 and 524292; provided, activities described in U.S. Industry Nos. 524210 and 524292 in the NAICS Manual other than processing of insurance claims shall not be included for purposes of this subdivision,

(q) those agricultural activities classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry Nos. 112120 and 112310, ~~and~~

(r) those professional organization activities classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 813920,

(s) alternative energy structure construction classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 237130,

(t) solar reflective coating application classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 238160, and

(u) solar heating equipment installation classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 238220;

(10) those activities related to extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under Industry Group No. 2111, subject to the limitations provided in paragraph 3 of this subsection and paragraph 3 of subsection B of this section,

(11) those activities performed by the federal civilian workforce at a facility of the Federal Aviation Administration located in this state if the Director of the Department of Commerce determines or is notified that the federal government is soliciting proposals or otherwise inviting states to compete for additional federal civilian employment or expansion of federal civilian employment at such facilities,

(12) those activities defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 711211 (2007 version), or

(13) those real estate or brokerage activities classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 53120 for which at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the establishment's revenues are attributed to out-of-state sales and at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the real

estate transactions generating those revenues are attributed to real property located outside the State of Oklahoma.

b. An establishment described in subparagraph a of this paragraph shall not be considered to be engaged in a basic industry unless it offers, or will offer within one hundred eighty (180) days of employment, a basic health benefits plan to the individuals it employs in new direct jobs in this state which is determined by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to consist of the following elements or elements substantially equivalent thereto:

(1) not more than fifty percent (50%) of the premium shall be paid by the employee,

(2) coverage for basic hospital care,

(3) coverage for physician care,

(4) coverage for mental health care,

(5) coverage for substance abuse treatment,

(6) coverage for prescription drugs, and

(7) coverage for prenatal care;

2. "Change in control event" means the transfer to one or more unrelated establishments or unrelated persons, of either:

a. beneficial ownership of more than fifty percent (50%) in value and more than fifty percent (50%) in voting

power of the outstanding equity securities of the transferred establishment, or

b. more than fifty percent (50%) in value of the assets of an establishment.

A transferor shall be treated as related to a transferee if more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting interests of the transferor and transferee are owned, directly or indirectly, by the other or are owned, directly or indirectly, by the same person or persons, unless such transferred establishment has an outstanding class of equity securities registered under Sections 12(b) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, in which event the transferor and transferee will be treated as unrelated; provided, an establishment applying for the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act as a result of a change of control event is required to apply within one hundred eighty (180) days of the change in control event to qualify for consideration. An establishment entering the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act as the result of a change of control event shall be required to maintain a level of new direct jobs as agreed to in its contract with the Department of Commerce and to pay new direct jobs an average annualized wage which equals or exceeds one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the average county wage as that percentage is determined by the Oklahoma State Data Center based upon the most recent U.S. Department of Commerce data for the county in which the new jobs are located. For purposes of this

paragraph, healthcare premiums paid by the applicant for individuals in new direct jobs shall not be included in the annualized wage. Such establishment entering the Quality Jobs Program Act as the result of a change of control event shall be required to retain the contracted average annualized wage and maintain the contracted maintenance level of new direct jobs numbers as certified by the Oklahoma Tax Commission. If the required average annualized wage or the required new direct jobs numbers do not equal or exceed such contracted level during any quarter, the quarterly incentive payments shall not be made and shall not be resumed until such time as such requirements are met. An establishment described in this paragraph shall be required to repay all incentive payments received under the Quality Jobs Program Act if the establishment is determined by the Oklahoma Tax Commission to no longer have business operations in the state within three (3) years from the beginning of the calendar quarter for which the first incentive payment claim is filed.

3. "New direct job":

a. means full-time-equivalent employment in this state in an establishment which has qualified to receive an incentive payment pursuant to the provisions of Section 3601 et seq. of this title which employment did not exist in this state prior to the date of approval by the Department of the application of the

establishment pursuant to the provisions of Section 3604 of this title and with respect to an establishment qualifying for incentive payments pursuant to division (12) of subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not include compensation paid to an employee or independent contractor for an athletic contest conducted in the state if the compensation is paid by an entity that does not have its principal place of business in the state or that does not own real or personal property having a market value of at least One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00) located in the state, and the employees or independent contractors of such entity are compensated to compete against the employees or independent contractors of an establishment that qualifies for incentive payments pursuant to division (12) of subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this subsection and which is organized under Oklahoma law or that is lawfully registered to do business in the state and which does have its principal place of business located in the state and owns real or personal property having a market value of at least One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00) located in the state; provided, that if an application of an

establishment is approved by the Department of Commerce after a change in control event and the Director of the Department of Commerce determines that the jobs located at such establishment are likely to leave the state, "new direct job" shall include employment that existed in this state prior to the date of application which is retained in this state by the new establishment following a change in control event, if such job otherwise qualifies as a new direct job, and

b. shall include full-time-equivalent employment in this state of employees who are employed by an employment agency or similar entity other than the establishment which has qualified to receive an incentive payment and who are leased or otherwise provided under contract to the qualified establishment, if such job did not exist in this state prior to the date of approval by the Department of the application of the establishment or the job otherwise qualifies as a new direct job following a change in control event. A job shall be deemed to exist in this state prior to approval of an application if the activities and functions for which the particular job exists have been ongoing at any time within six (6) months prior

to such approval. With respect to establishments defined in division (10) of subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this subsection, new direct jobs shall be limited to those jobs directly comprising the corporate headquarters of or directly relating to administrative, financial, engineering, surveying, geological or geophysical services performed by the establishment. Under no circumstances shall employment relating to drilling or field services be considered new direct jobs;

4. "Estimated direct state benefits" means the tax revenues projected by the Department to accrue to the state as a result of new direct jobs;

5. "Estimated direct state costs" means the costs projected by the Department to accrue to the state as a result of new direct jobs. Such costs shall include, but not be limited to:

a. the costs of education of new state resident children,

b. the costs of public health, public safety and transportation services to be provided to new state residents,

c. the costs of other state services to be provided to new state residents, and

d. the costs of other state services;

6. "Estimated net direct state benefits" means the estimated direct state benefits less the estimated direct state costs;

7. "Net benefit rate" means the estimated net direct state benefits computed as a percentage of gross payroll; provided:

a. except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the net benefit rate may be variable and shall not exceed five percent (5%),

b. the net benefit rate shall not exceed six percent (6%) in connection with an establishment which is owned and operated by an entity which has been awarded a United States Department of Defense contract for which:

(1) bids were solicited and accepted by the United States Department of Defense from facilities located outside this state,

(2) the term is or is renewable for not less than twenty (20) years, and

(3) the average annual salary, excluding benefits which are not subject to Oklahoma income taxes, for new direct jobs created as a direct result of the awarding of the contract is projected by the Department of Commerce to equal or exceed Forty Thousand Dollars ($40,000.00) within three (3) years of the date of the first incentive payment,

c. except as otherwise provided in subparagraph d of this paragraph, in no event shall incentive payments, cumulatively, exceed the estimated net direct state benefits,

d. the net benefit rate shall be five percent (5%) for an establishment locating:

(1) in an opportunity zone located in a high-employment county, as such terms are defined in subsection G of Section 3604 of this title, or

(2) in a county in which:

(a) the per capita personal income, as determined by the Department, is eighty-five percent (85%) or less of the statewide average per capita personal income,

(b) the population has decreased over the previous ten (10) years, as determined by the State Data Center based on the most recent U.S. Department of Commerce data, or

(c) the unemployment rate exceeds the lesser of five percent (5%) or two percentage points above the state average unemployment rate as certified by the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission,

e. the net benefit rate shall not exceed six percent (6%) in connection with an establishment which:

(1) is, as of the date of application, receiving incentive payments pursuant to the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act and has been receiving such payments for at least one (1) year prior to the date of application, and

(2) expands its operations in this state by creating additional new direct jobs which pay average annualized wages which equal or exceed one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the average annualized wages of new direct jobs on which incentive payments were received during the preceding calendar year, and

f. with respect to an establishment defined or classified in the NAICS Manual under U.S. Industry No. 711211 (2007 version) or any establishment defined or classified in the NAICS Manual as a U.S. Industry Number which is not included within the definition of "basic industry" as such term is defined in this section on April 17, 2008, the net benefit rate shall not exceed the highest rate of income tax imposed upon the Oklahoma taxable income of individuals pursuant to subparagraph (g) or subparagraph (h), as applicable,

of paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 of subsection B of Section 2355 of this title. Any change in such highest rate of individual income tax imposed pursuant to the provisions of Section 2355 of this title shall be applicable to the computation of incentive payments to an establishment as described by this subparagraph and shall be effective for purposes of incentive payments based on payroll paid by such establishment on or after January 1 of any applicable year for which the net benefit rate is modified as required by this subparagraph.

Incentive payments made pursuant to the provisions of this subparagraph shall be based upon payroll associated with such new direct jobs. For purposes of this subparagraph, the amount of health insurance premiums or other benefits paid by the establishment shall not be included for purposes of computation of the average annualized wage;

8. "Gross payroll" means wages, as defined in Section 2385.1 of this title for new direct jobs;

9. a. "Establishment" means any business or governmental entity, no matter what legal form, including, but not limited to, a sole proprietorship; partnership; limited liability company; corporation or combination of corporations which have a central parent

corporation which makes corporate management decisions such as those involving consolidation, acquisition, merger or expansion; federal agency; political subdivision of the State of Oklahoma; or trust authority; provided, distinct, identifiable subunits of such entities may be determined to be an establishment, for all purposes of Section 3601 et seq. of this title, by the Department subject to the following conditions:

(1) within three (3) years of the first complete calendar quarter following the start date, the entity must have a minimum payroll of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,500,000.00) and the subunit must also have or will have a minimum payroll of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,500,000.00),

(2) the subunit is engaged in an activity or service or produces a product which is demonstratively independent and separate from the entity's other activities, services or products and could be conducted or produced in the absence of any other activity, service or production of the entity,

(3) has an accounting system capable of tracking or facilitating an audit of the subunit's payroll,

expenses, revenue and production. Limited interunit overlap of administrative and purchasing functions shall not disqualify a subunit from consideration as an establishment by the Department,

(4) the entity has not previously had a subunit determined to be an establishment pursuant to this section; provided, the restriction set forth in this division shall not apply to subunits which qualify pursuant to the provisions of subparagraph b of paragraph 6 of this subsection, and

(5) it is determined by the Department that the entity will have a probable net gain in total employment within the incentive period.

b. The Department may promulgate rules to further limit the circumstances under which a subunit may be considered an establishment. The Department shall promulgate rules to determine whether a subunit of an entity achieves a net gain in total employment. The Department shall establish criteria for determining the period of time within which such gain must be demonstrated and a method for determining net gain in total employment;

10. "NAICS Manual" means any manual, book or other publication containing the North American Industry Classification System, United States, 1997, promulgated by the Office of Management and Budget of the United States of America, or the latest revised edition;

11. "Qualified federal contract" means a contract between an agency or instrumentality of the United States government, including but not limited to the Department of Defense or any branch of the United States Armed Forces, but exclusive of any contract performed for the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a direct result of a natural disaster declared by the Governor or the President of the United States with respect to damage to property located in Oklahoma or loss of life or personal injury to persons in Oklahoma, and a lawfully recognized business entity, whether or not the business entity is organized under the laws of the State of Oklahoma or whether or not the principal place of business of the business entity is located within the State of Oklahoma, for the performance of services, including but not limited to testing, research, development, consulting or other services, if the contract involves the performance of such services performed on or after the effective date of this act by the employees of the business entity within the State of Oklahoma or if the contract involves the performance of such services performed on or after the effective date of this act by employees of a lawfully recognized business entity that is a

subcontractor of the business entity with which the prime contract has been formed;

12. "Qualified federal contractor verifier" means a nonprofit entity organized under the laws of the State of Oklahoma, having an affiliation with a comprehensive university which is part of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, and having the following characteristics:

a. established multiyear classified and unclassified indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity federal contract vehicles in excess of Fifty Million Dollars ($50,000,000.00),

b. current capability to sponsor and maintain personnel security clearances and authorized by the federal government to handle and perform classified work up to the Top Secret Sensitive Compartmented Information levels,

c. at least one on-site federally certified Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility,

d. on-site secure mass data storage complex with the capability of isolating, segregating and protecting corporate proprietary and classified information,

e. trusted agent status by maintaining no ownership of, vested interest in, nor royalty production from any intellectual property,

f. at least one hundred thousand (100,000) square feet of configurable laboratory and support space,

g. the direct access to restricted air space through a formalized memorandum of agreement with the Department of Defense,

h. at least five thousand (5,000) acres available for outdoor testing and training facilities, and

i. the ability to house state-of-the-art surety facilities, including chemical, biological, radiological, explosives, electronics, and unmanned systems laboratories and ranges;

13. "SIC Manual" means the 1987 revision to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, promulgated by the Office of Management and Budget of the United States of America;

14. "Start date" means the date on which an establishment may begin accruing benefits for the creation of new direct jobs, which date shall be determined by the Department;

15. "Effective date" means the date of approval of a contract under which incentive payments will be made pursuant to the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act, which shall be the date the signed and accepted incentive contract is received by the Department; provided, an approved project may have a start date which is different from the effective date;

16. "Total qualified labor hours" means the reimbursed payment amount for hours of work performed within the state by the employees of a qualified federal contractor or the employees of a subcontractor of a qualified federal contractor and which are required for the full performance of a qualified federal contract; and

17. "Qualified labor rate" means the fully reimbursed labor rate paid through a qualified federal contract for qualified labor hours to the qualified federal contractor or subcontractor.

B. The Incentive Approval Committee is hereby created and shall consist of the Director of State Finance, the Director of the Department and one member of the Oklahoma Tax Commission appointed by the Tax Commission, or a designee from each agency approved by such member. It shall be the duty of the Committee to determine:

1. Upon initial application on a form approved by the Committee, if an establishment is engaged in a basic industry as defined in subdivision (b) of division (7) or in subdivisions (a) through (p) of division (9) of subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section or as otherwise provided by subsection C of this section;

2. If an establishment would have been defined as a "basic industry" prior to the amendments to this section to convert from SIC Codes to NAICS Codes. If the Committee so determines, the

establishment shall be considered as a "basic industry" for purposes of the Oklahoma Quality Jobs Program Act; and

3. If employees of an establishment as defined in division (10) of subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section meet the requirements to be considered employed in new direct jobs as specified in paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section.

C. For an establishment defined as a "basic industry" pursuant to division (4) of subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section, the Incentive Approval Committee shall consist of the members provided by subsection B of this section and the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology, or a designee from the Center appointed by the Executive Director.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2010.

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.

52-2-8855 MAH 01/10/10