

**BILL SUMMARY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislature

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Bill No.:</b>       | <b>HB 1549</b>          |
| <b>Version:</b>        | <b>CS</b>               |
| <b>Request Number:</b> | <b>3338</b>             |
| <b>Author:</b>         | <b>Rep. Sears</b>       |
| <b>Date:</b>           | <b>5/4/2016</b>         |
| <b>Impact:</b>         | <b>\$0 to the State</b> |

**Research Analysis**

HB 1549 changes how the owner of a wind energy facility demonstrates financial security. For facilities constructed before January 1, 2016, evidence would still be filed after the 15<sup>th</sup> year of operation. Facilities constructed after that date must submit their financial security information before construction begins, along with an estimate of the total cost of decommissioning. The financial security must cover 125% of the total cost of decommissioning.

The measure also includes new setback requirements for wind energy facilities. They would have to be no closer than 1 ½ miles from any public-use, private-use, or municipal airport, any public school, or any hospital.

The bill further requires that notice be given to the Corporation Commission and county commissioners when filing with the FAA before construction, within 6 months of filing. The facility owner would also be required to publish notification in local newspapers. Within 60 days of notifying the Corporation Commission, the facility owner would hold a public hearing. No construction could begin until all the notice requirements were met.

Prepared By: Sean Webster

**Fiscal Analysis**

The CS on HB 1549 has no fiscal impact for the state.

Prepared By: Kristina King

**Other Considerations**

None.