
HOUSE BILL 1570

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Chandler and Morris

Read first time 01/25/11. Referred to Committee on Technology, Energy & Communications.

1 AN ACT Relating to siting of energy facility projects; amending RCW
2 80.50.071; adding a new section to chapter 36.01 RCW; adding a new
3 section to chapter 35.63 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter
4 35A.63 RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 80.50.071 and 2010 c 152 s 3 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) The council shall receive all applications for energy facility
9 site certification. Each applicant shall pay such reasonable costs as
10 are actually and necessarily incurred by the council in processing an
11 application.

12 (a) Each applicant shall, at the time of application submission,
13 deposit fifty thousand dollars, or such greater amount as may be
14 specified by the council after consultation with the applicant. Costs
15 that may be charged against the deposit include, but are not limited
16 to, independent consultants' costs, councilmember's wages, employee
17 benefits, costs of a hearing examiner, costs of a court reporter, staff
18 salaries, wages and employee benefits, goods and services, travel

1 expenses, and miscellaneous direct expenses as arise directly from
2 processing an application.

3 (b) The council may commission its own independent consultant study
4 to measure the consequences of the proposed energy facility on the
5 environment or any matter that it deems essential to an adequate
6 appraisal of the site. The council shall provide an estimate of the
7 cost of the study to the applicant and consider applicant comments.

8 (c) The council shall submit to each applicant a statement of such
9 expenditures made during the preceding calendar quarter which shall be
10 in sufficient detail to explain such expenditures. The applicant shall
11 pay the state treasurer the amount of such statement to restore the
12 total amount on deposit to the originally established level: PROVIDED,
13 That such applicant may, at the request of the council, increase the
14 amount of funds on deposit to cover anticipated expenses during peak
15 periods of application processing. Any funds remaining unexpended at
16 the conclusion of application processing shall be refunded to the
17 applicant, or at the applicant's option, credited against required
18 deposits of certificate holders.

19 (2) Each certificate holder shall pay such reasonable costs as are
20 actually and necessarily incurred by the council for inspection and
21 determination of compliance by the certificate holder with the terms of
22 the certification relative to monitoring the effects of construction,
23 operation, and site restoration of the facility.

24 (a) Each certificate holder, within thirty days of execution of the
25 site certification agreement, shall have on deposit fifty thousand
26 dollars, or such greater amount as may be specified by the council
27 after consultation with the certificate holder. Costs that may be
28 charged against the deposit include, but are not limited to, those
29 specified in subsection (1)(a) of this section as arise from inspection
30 and determination of compliance by the certificate holder with the
31 terms of the certification.

32 (b) The council shall submit to each certificate holder a statement
33 of such expenditures actually made during the preceding calendar
34 quarter which shall be in sufficient detail to explain such
35 expenditures. The certificate holder shall pay the state treasurer the
36 amount of such statement to restore the total amount on deposit to the
37 originally established level: PROVIDED, That if the actual

1 expenditures for inspection and determination of compliance in the
2 preceding calendar quarter have exceeded the amount of funds on
3 deposit, such excess costs shall be paid by the certificate holder.

4 (3) If an applicant or certificate holder fails to provide the
5 initial deposit, or if subsequently required payments are not received
6 within thirty days following receipt of the statement from the council,
7 the council may (a) in the case of the applicant, suspend processing of
8 the application until payment is received; or (b) in the case of a
9 certificate holder, suspend the certification.

10 (4) All payments required of the applicant or certificate holder
11 under this section are to be made to the state treasurer who shall make
12 payments as instructed by the council from the funds submitted. All
13 such funds shall be subject to state auditing procedures. Any
14 unexpended portions thereof shall be returned to the applicant or
15 certificate holder.

16 (5)(a) Upon receipt of an application for an energy facility site
17 certification proposing an energy plant or alternative renewable energy
18 facility that is connected to transmission facilities of a nominal
19 voltage of at least one hundred fifteen thousand volts, the council
20 shall notify in writing the United States department of defense. The
21 notification shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

22 (i) A description of the proposed energy plant or alternative
23 renewable energy facility;

24 (ii) The location of the site;

25 (iii) The placement of the energy plant or alternative renewable
26 energy facility on the site; and

27 (iv) Contact information of the council and the applicant.

28 (b) The purpose of the written notification is to provide an
29 opportunity for the United States department of defense to comment upon
30 the application, identifying potential issues relating to the placement
31 and operations of the energy plant or alternative renewable energy
32 facility, before a site certification application is approved.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 36.01 RCW
34 to read as follows:

35 (1) Upon receipt of an application for a permit to site an energy
36 project that is connected to transmission facilities of a nominal

1 voltage of at least one hundred fifteen thousand volts, the county
2 shall notify in writing the United States department of defense. The
3 notification shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

4 (a) A description of the proposed energy project;

5 (b) The location of the site;

6 (c) The number and placement of the energy project on the site; and

7 (d) Contact information of the county permitting authority and the
8 applicant.

9 (2) The purpose of the written notification is to provide an
10 opportunity for the United States department of defense to comment upon
11 the application, identifying potential issues relating to the placement
12 and operations of the energy project before a permit application is
13 approved.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 35.63 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) Upon receipt of an application for a permit to site an energy
17 project that is connected to transmission facilities of a nominal
18 voltage of at least one hundred fifteen thousand volts, the city or
19 town shall notify in writing the United States department of defense.
20 The notification shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

21 (a) A description of the proposed energy project;

22 (b) The location of the site;

23 (c) The placement of the energy project on the site; and

24 (d) Contact information of the city or town permitting authority
25 and the applicant.

26 (2) The purpose of the written notification is to provide an
27 opportunity for the United States department of defense to comment upon
28 the application, identifying potential issues relating to the placement
29 and operations of the energy project, before a permit application is
30 approved.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.63 RCW
32 to read as follows:

33 (1) Upon receipt of an application for a permit to site an energy
34 project that is connected to transmission facilities of a nominal
35 voltage of at least one hundred fifteen thousand volts, the city shall

1 notify in writing the United States department of defense. The
2 notification shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 3 (a) A description of the proposed energy project;
- 4 (b) The location of the site;
- 5 (c) The placement of the energy project on the site; and
- 6 (d) Contact information of the city permitting authority and the
7 applicant.

8 (2) The purpose of the written notification is to provide an
9 opportunity for the United States department of defense to comment upon
10 the application, identifying potential issues relating to the placement
11 and operations of the project, before a permit application is approved.

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