
SENATE BILL 5838

State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1993 Regular Session

By Senators Sutherland, Williams and Roach

Read first time 02/17/93. Referred to Committee on Energy & Utilities.

1 AN ACT Relating to energy siting review; creating new sections; and
2 providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that meeting future
5 energy demands within the state will require the siting of new
6 generating facilities, renewable resources, transmission facilities,
7 and natural gas pipelines. The legislature further finds that current
8 siting processes, designed to accommodate large thermal power plants,
9 do not allow efficient development of current energy supply options.
10 The legislature further finds that a comprehensive review and revision
11 of siting policy is needed to ensure timely development of adequate,
12 environmentally sound energy resources at an affordable cost.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is created an energy siting process
14 review committee. The committee shall review the siting processes
15 currently applicable to energy facilities, including: (1) Major
16 thermal power plants; (2) natural gas-fired combustion turbines; (3)
17 cogeneration plants; (4) hydroelectric facilities; (5) other renewable
18 resources, including wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass energy; (6)

1 natural gas pipelines; and (7) electric transmission lines. The
2 committee shall recommend changes to statutes, rules, and policies that
3 will reduce the cost of and time for siting new resources, while
4 preserving environmental quality, allowing public review and comment,
5 and ensuring an appropriate role for local government.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The energy siting process review committee
7 shall consist of twelve members, as follows:

8 (1) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the
9 senate;

10 (2) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the
11 speaker of the house of representatives; and

12 (3) Eight members appointed by the governor, representing the
13 following interests:

14 (a) One member representing local governments;

15 (b) One member representing electric utilities;

16 (c) One member representing natural gas utilities;

17 (d) One member representing environmental organizations;

18 (e) One member representing independent power producers; and

19 (f) Three members representing citizens at large.

20 The chairperson shall be selected by the governor from the citizen
21 members of the committee.

22 Members shall receive no compensation for their services but shall
23 be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and
24 43.03.060.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The state energy office shall provide staff
26 support to the energy siting process review committee.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The energy siting process review committee
28 shall report its findings and recommendations, including proposed
29 legislation, to the governor and appropriate standing committees of the
30 legislature no later than December 1, 1993.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act shall expire June 30, 1994.

--- END ---