

**SSB 6355** - H AMD TO H AMD (H-3830.1/26) **2647**

By Representative Abell

WITHDRAWN 03/11/2026

1 On page 7, line 19 of the striking amendment, after "law," insert  
2 "and in accordance with section 12 of this act,"

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4 On page 12, after line 10 of the striking amendment, insert the  
5 following:

6 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. (1)(a) Before designating a transmission  
7 corridor or initiating development of a transmission project,  
8 including acquiring any property or exercising eminent domain, the  
9 authority must make written findings that the proposed transmission  
10 project or corridor is in the public interest and satisfies the  
11 requirements of this section.

12 (b) The authority may rely on findings previously made under this  
13 section for the same transmission project or corridor and is not  
14 required to repeat the analysis for each subsequent action related to  
15 the same project or corridor unless there has been a material change  
16 in the scope, location, cost, or impacts of the project or corridor.

17 (2) The authority must determine that the proposed project or  
18 corridor represents the least-cost and least-risk reasonable  
19 alternative for meeting the identified transmission need.

20 (3) In making the determination required under this section, the  
21 authority must evaluate and consider at a minimum:

22 (a) The total lifecycle cost of the transmission project or  
23 corridor, including planning, permitting, construction, financing,  
24 operation, and maintenance;

25 (b) Reasonable alternatives to the proposed transmission project  
26 or corridor, including alternative routes, demand-side solutions,

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1 distributed energy resources, non-wires alternatives, energy storage,  
2 and generation located closer to load;

3 (c) The effect of the project or corridor on electric rates and  
4 transmission costs paid by Washington ratepayers;

5 (d) The reliability benefits of the proposed transmission project  
6 or corridor;

7 (e) Environmental and wildfire risk associated with the project or  
8 corridor;

9 (f) Impacts on tribal cultural resources and treaty rights;

10 (g) Land-use impacts on agricultural lands, rural communities, and  
11 natural habitats; and

12 (h) The economic and financial risks associated with constructing,  
13 owning, or selling the transmission project.

14 (4) The authority must publish the analysis required under this  
15 section and provide a public comment period of not less than 60 days  
16 before making a final determination.

17 (5) A transmission corridor designation or project approval must  
18 include written findings demonstrating that the project or corridor is  
19 consistent with the requirements of this section.

20 (6) The authority may not designate a transmission corridor or  
21 enter into construction contracts, acquire property, or exercise  
22 eminent domain authority for a transmission project unless the  
23 findings required under this section have been adopted by the  
24 authority in a public meeting."

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26 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any  
27 internal references accordingly.

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29 On page 36, at the beginning of line 16 of the striking amendment,  
30 strike "11" and insert "12"

EFFECT: Requires the Washington Electric Transmission Authority (Transmission Authority) to publish an evaluation that includes specified considerations for any proposed transmission project or corridor, provide a public comment period on its evaluation, and then adopt findings in a public meeting before

making a final determination that a transmission project or corridor represents the least-cost and least-risk option for meeting a transmission need. Prohibits the Transmission Authority from designating a transmission corridor, acquiring property, entering into construction contracts, or exercising eminent domain for a transmission project unless the Transmission Authority adopts such evaluation findings in a public meeting.

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