
HOUSE BILL 1994

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Klicker and Dye

Read first time 02/18/25. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to encouraging local support of communities that
2 host renewable energy through changes in tax policy; adding a new
3 chapter to Title 82 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislative authority of any
6 county may submit an authorizing proposition to the voters at a
7 special or general election and, if the proposition is approved by a
8 majority of the persons voting, may impose an excise tax on the
9 nameplate capacity of industrial-scale renewable energy facilities
10 sited within the county subject to the restrictions of this section.
11 The title of each ballot measure must clearly state the purposes for
12 which the proposed tax may be used.

13 (2) The rate of the tax may not exceed the following rates
14 adjusted annually for inflation beginning January 1, 2026, based upon
15 changes in the consumer price index for the most recent 12-month
16 period available as of December 1st of the current calendar year:

17 (a)(i) For solar energy production facilities operational on or
18 before December 31, 2026, \$4,000 per megawatt; and

19 (ii) For solar energy production facilities operational on or
20 after January 1, 2027, \$4,500 per megawatt.

1 (b) (i) For wind energy production facilities operational on or
2 before December 31, 2004, \$800 per megawatt;

3 (ii) For wind energy production facilities operational between
4 January 1, 2005, and December 31, 2019, \$2,900 per megawatt;

5 (iii) For wind energy production facilities operational between
6 January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2026, \$6,000 per megawatt; and

7 (iv) For wind energy production facilities operational on or
8 after January 1, 2027, \$6,300 per megawatt.

9 (c) For battery energy storage facilities, \$1,500 per megawatt
10 hour.

11 (3) The tax imposed under this section expires no later than 30
12 years after the date the tax was first imposed, at the discretion of
13 the county and submitted as part of the authorizing proposition and
14 must be resubmitted to the voters for continuation.

15 (4) For purposes of this section, the following definitions
16 apply:

17 (a) "Consumer price index" means the consumer price index for all
18 urban consumers, all items, for the Seattle area as calculated by the
19 United States bureau of labor statistics.

20 (b) "Industrial-scale renewable energy facility" means a wind
21 energy production facility, solar energy production facility, battery
22 energy storage facility, or any combination of the listed facilities
23 that are sited on the same siting application and has a nameplate
24 capacity of 50 megawatts or more.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act constitutes a new
26 chapter in Title 82 RCW.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
28 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
29 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
30 effect immediately.

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