

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 1804*
Committee Substitute Favorable 6/10/10
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Short Title: Energy Policy Council Green Energy Study.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 19, 2010

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE ENERGY POLICY COUNCIL TO IDENTIFY, STUDY, AND RECOMMEND POLICIES TO INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION, PROMOTE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES, AND REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) The Energy Policy Council shall identify, study, and recommend policies to significantly increase energy efficiency and conservation, promote the development of renewable energy resources, and reduce carbon emissions. The Council shall specifically consider:

- (1) Revision of the Utilities Commission's guiding language for electric utilities in order to promote significant increases in electric utility investment in energy efficiency, conservation, and renewable energy resources.
- (2) Incentives to encourage demand side management.
- (3) Incentives to encourage the use of more energy efficient appliances.
- (4) Allowing electric utilities to earn more from energy saved through efficiency and conservation programs than from energy generated.
- (5) Policies to encourage the development of renewable energy resources in the State.
- (6) Simplifying the net-metering sign-up process and evaluating the purchase price for energy generated from renewable energy resources under the net-metering program.
- (7) Removing barriers to interconnection.
- (8) Requiring electric utilities to include potential future carbon costs when developing their biennial integrated resource plans.
- (9) Changes to the State renewable energy portfolio standard to allow greater use of combined heat and power and energy recycling technologies.
- (10) Removing barriers to implementation and permitting of energy recycling.
- (11) Authorizing the sale of thermal energy.
- (12) The potential benefits of a public benefit charge.
- (13) Evaluating the feasibility of establishing a third-party administrator for energy efficiency programs in the State and to also study options for the framework, structure, and governance upon which a third-party energy efficiency administrator would operate.



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1 (14) The potential costs and benefits of additional nuclear generation.

2 **SECTION 1.(b)** For each recommendation made pursuant to Section 1(a) of this
3 act, the Council shall:

4 (1) Identify the projected amount of energy savings, the amount and nature of
5 renewable energy resources to be developed, and the amount of carbon
6 emissions reductions to be realized, such information to include 10-year
7 annualized projections.

8 (2) Perform cost analyses for the implementation of any recommendation
9 including, but not limited to, 10-year annualized projections of utility costs
10 to North Carolina residential, commercial, and industrial electricity
11 customers, and environmental- and health-related externalities.

12 **SECTION 2.** The Energy Policy Council may submit an interim report of its
13 findings and recommendations to the Environmental Review Commission and the Joint
14 Legislative Utility Review Committee no later than February 1, 2011, and shall submit a final
15 report of its findings and recommendations to the Environmental Review Commission and the
16 Joint Legislative Utility Review Committee no later than May 1, 2011.

17 **SECTION 2.1.** The study directed by this act shall only be carried out to the extent
18 that funds are available to the Energy Policy Council, and nothing in this act obligates the
19 General Assembly to appropriate additional funds.

20 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.