
SENATE BILL 5292

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators T. Sheldon, McDonald, Fraser, Hochstatter, Regala, Stevens, Kastama, Snyder, Honeyford, Patterson, Eide and Hale

Read first time 01/18/2001. Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Water.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the definition of a major public
2 energy project; and amending RCW 80.52.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 80.52.030 and 1995 c 69 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this
7 chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8 (1) "Public agency" means a public utility district, joint
9 operating agency, city, county, or any other state governmental agency,
10 entity, or political subdivision.

11 (2) "Major public energy project" means a thermal nuclear power
12 plant or installation capable, or intended to be capable, of generating
13 electricity in an amount greater than two hundred fifty megawatts,
14 measured using maximum continuous electric generating capacity, less
15 minimum auxiliary load, at average ambient temperature and pressure.
16 Where two or more such plants are located within the same geographic
17 site, each plant shall be considered a major public energy project. An
18 addition to an existing facility is not deemed to be a major energy
19 project unless the addition itself is capable, or intended to be

1 capable, of generating electricity in an amount greater than two
2 hundred fifty megawatts. A project which is under construction on July
3 1, 1982, shall not be considered a major public energy project unless
4 the official agency budget or estimate for total construction costs for
5 the project as of July 1, 1982, is more than two hundred percent of the
6 first official estimate of total construction costs as specified in the
7 senate energy and utilities committee WPPSS inquiry report, volume one,
8 January 12, 1981, and unless, as of July 1, 1982, the projected
9 remaining cost of construction for that project exceeds two hundred
10 million dollars.

11 (3) "Cost of construction" means the total cost of planning and
12 building a major public energy project and placing it into operation,
13 including, but not limited to, planning cost, direct construction cost,
14 licensing cost, cost of fuel inventory for the first year's operation,
15 interest, and all other costs incurred prior to the first day of full
16 operation, whether or not incurred prior to July 1, 1982.

17 (4) "Cost of acquisition" means the total cost of acquiring a major
18 public energy project from another party, including, but not limited
19 to, principal and interest costs.

20 (5) "Bond" means a revenue bond, a general obligation bond, or any
21 other indebtedness issued by a public agency or its assignee.

22 (6) "Applicant" means a public agency, or the assignee of a public
23 agency, requesting the secretary of state to conduct an election
24 pursuant to this chapter.

25 (7) "Cost-effective" means that a project or resource is forecast:

26 (a) To be reliable and available within the time it is needed; and

27 (b) To meet or reduce the electric power demand of the intended
28 consumers at an estimated incremental system cost no greater than that
29 of the least-cost similarly reliable and available alternative project
30 or resource, or any combination thereof.

31 (8) "System cost" means an estimate of all direct costs of a
32 project or resource over its effective life, including, if applicable,
33 the costs of distribution to the consumer, and, among other factors,
34 waste disposal costs, end-of-cycle costs, and fuel costs (including
35 projected increases), and such quantifiable environmental costs and
36 benefits as are directly attributable to the project or resource.

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