

2705

Sponsor(s): Representatives Hatfield, Mulliken, Doumit, Mielke and Buck

Brief Description: Allowing cost recovery in cases involving disputed department of ecology studies.

HB 2705 - DIGEST

Provides that local governments that are affected by the studies under this act must be allowed to discuss the findings with the director and, if necessary, dispute the findings. If the department does not respond to the affected parties' concerns, the parties may hire a consultant to review the studies.

Provides that if the consultant finds the studies to be flawed or conducted in an unprofessional manner, the local government may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to have the study disregarded and costs awarded to the local government. Costs under this provision include consultant fees and court costs.