

SENATE BILL NO. 2307

Introduced by

Senator Heckaman

Representative Boschee

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subdivision e of subsection 2 of section 38-08-04.5 and
2 subdivision b of subsection 1 of section 57-51-15 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to
3 the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund; and to provide an effective
4 date.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision e of subsection 2 of section 38-08-04.5 of the
7 North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

8 e. Reclamation and restoration of land and water resources impacted by oil and gas
9 development, including related pipelines and facilities that were abandoned or
10 were left in an inadequate reclamation status before August 1, 1983, and for
11 which there is not any continuing reclamation responsibility under state law. Land
12 and water degraded by any willful act of the current or any former surface owner
13 are not eligible for reclamation or restoration. The commission may expend up to
14 fivethirty-five million dollars per biennium from the fund in the following priority:

- 15 (1) For the restoration of eligible land and water that are degraded by the
16 adverse effects of oil and gas development including related pipelines and
17 facilities.
- 18 (2) For the development of publicly owned land adversely affected by oil and
19 gas development including related pipelines and facilities.
- 20 (3) For administrative expenses and cost in developing an abandoned site
21 reclamation plan and the program.
- 22 (4) Demonstration projects for the development of reclamation and water
23 quality control program methods and techniques for oil and gas
24 development, including related pipelines and facilities.

1 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision b of subsection 1 of section 57-51-15 of the North
2 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3 b. Four percent of the amount available under this subsection to the abandoned oil
4 and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund, but not in an amount exceeding
5 ~~seven~~fifteen million ~~five hundred thousand~~ dollars per fiscal year and not in an
6 amount that would bring the balance in the fund to more than ~~fiftyone hundred~~
7 fifty million dollars.

8 **SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 2 of this Act becomes effective for taxable events
9 after June 30, 2021.