Assembly Bill No. 380–Assemblymen Conklin, Kirkpatrick, Atkinson; Oceguera and Smith

CHAPTER..........

AN ACT relating to energy; revising the prospective expiration of the Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program and the Waterpower Energy Systems Demonstration Program; providing for the expiration of the Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:
Existing law provides that the Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program and the Waterpower Energy Systems Demonstration Program will expire on June 30, 2011. (NRS 701B.400-701B.890; chapter 509, Statutes of Nevada 2007, p. 2999) This bill revises the prospective expiration dates of these programs and provides that the Wind Program, the Waterpower Program and the Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program will expire on December 31, 2021.

EXPLANATION – Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. (Deleted by amendment.)
Sec. 2. NRS 701.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:
701.180 The Director shall:
1. Acquire and analyze information relating to energy and to the supply, demand and conservation of its sources, including, without limitation:
   — (a) Information relating to the Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program created pursuant to NRS 701B.240 and the Wind Energy Systems Incentive Program created pursuant to 701B.580, including, without limitation, information relating to:
   — (1) The development of distributed generation systems in this State pursuant to participation in the Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program;
   — (2) The use of carbon-based energy in residential and commercial applications due to participation in the Programs; and
   — (3) The average cost of generation on a kilowatt-hour basis for residential and commercial applications due to participation in the Programs; and
   — (b) Information, information relating to any money distributed pursuant to NRS 702.270.
2. Review and evaluate information which identifies trends and permits forecasting of the energy available to the State. Such forecasts must include estimates on:
   (a) The level of demand for energy in the State for 5-, 10- and 20-year periods;
   (b) The amount of energy available to meet each level of demand;
   (c) The probable implications of the forecast on the demand and supply of energy; and
   (d) The sources of renewable energy and other alternative sources of energy which are available and their possible effects.

3. Study means of reducing wasteful, inefficient, unnecessary or uneconomical uses of energy and encourage the maximum utilization of existing sources of energy in the State.

4. Solicit and serve as the point of contact for grants and other money from the Federal Government, including, without limitation, any grants and other money available pursuant to any program administered by the United States Department of Energy, and other sources to cooperate with the Commissioner and the Authority:
   (a) To promote energy projects that enhance the economic development of the State;
   (b) To promote the use of renewable energy in this State;
   (c) To promote the use of measures which conserve or reduce the demand for energy or which result in more efficient use of energy;
   (d) To develop a comprehensive program for retrofitting public buildings in this State with energy efficiency measures; and
   (e) If the Commissioner determines that it is feasible and cost-effective, to enter into contracts with researchers from the Nevada System of Higher Education for the design of energy efficiency and retrofit projects to carry out the comprehensive program for retrofitting public buildings in this State developed pursuant to paragraph (d).

5. Coordinate the activities and programs of the Office of Energy with the activities and programs of the Authority, the Consumer’s Advocate and the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, and with other federal, state and local officers and agencies that promote, fund, administer or operate activities and programs related to the use of renewable energy and the use of measures which conserve or reduce the demand for energy or which result in more efficient use of energy.

6. If requested to make a determination pursuant to NRS 111.239 or 278.0208, make the determination within 30 days after
receiving the request. If the Director needs additional information to make the determination, the Director may request the information from the person making the request for a determination. Within 15 days after receiving the additional information, the Director shall make a determination on the request.

7. Carry out all other directives concerning energy that are prescribed by the Governor.

Secs. 3-42. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 43. NRS 701B.924 is hereby amended to read as follows:

701B.924 1. The State Public Works Board shall, within 90 days after June 9, 2009, determine the specific projects to weatherize and retrofit public buildings, facilities and structures, including, without limitation, traffic-control systems, and to otherwise use sources of renewable energy to serve those buildings, facilities and structures pursuant to the provisions of this section and NRS 701B.921. The projects must be prioritized and selected on the basis of the following criteria:

(a) The length of time necessary to commence the project.
(b) The number of workers estimated to be employed on the project.
(c) The effectiveness of the project in reducing energy consumption.
(d) The estimated cost of the project.
(e) Whether the project is able to be powered by or to otherwise use sources of renewable energy.
(f) Whether the project has qualified for participation in one or more of the following programs:

(1) The Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program created by NRS 701B.240;
(2) The Renewable Energy School Pilot Program created by NRS 701B.350;
(3) The Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.580;
(4) The Waterpower Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.820; or
(5) An energy efficiency or energy conservation program offered by a public utility, as defined in NRS 704.020, pursuant to a plan approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada pursuant to NRS 704.741.

2. The board of trustees of each school district shall, within 90 days after June 9, 2009, determine the specific projects to
weatherize and retrofit public buildings, facilities and structures, including, without limitation, traffic-control systems, and to otherwise use sources of renewable energy to serve those buildings, facilities and structures pursuant to the provisions of this section and NRS 701B.921. The projects must be prioritized and selected on the basis of the following criteria:

(a) The length of time necessary to commence the project.
(b) The number of workers estimated to be employed on the project.
(c) The effectiveness of the project in reducing energy consumption.
(d) The estimated cost of the project.
(e) Whether the project is able to be powered by or to otherwise use sources of renewable energy.
(f) Whether the project has qualified for participation in one or more of the following programs:
   (1) The Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program created by NRS 701B.240;
   (2) The Renewable Energy School Pilot Program created by NRS 701B.350;
   (3) The Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.580;
   (4) The Waterpower Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.820; or
   (5) An energy efficiency or energy conservation program offered by a public utility, as defined in NRS 704.020, pursuant to a plan approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada pursuant to NRS 704.741.

3. The Board of Regents of the University of Nevada shall, within 90 days after June 9, 2009, determine the specific projects to weatherize and retrofit public buildings, facilities and structures, including, without limitation, traffic-control systems, and to otherwise use sources of renewable energy to serve those buildings, facilities and structures pursuant to the provisions of this section and NRS 701B.921. The projects must be prioritized and selected on the basis of the following criteria:

(a) The length of time necessary to commence the project.
(b) The number of workers estimated to be employed on the project.
(c) The effectiveness of the project in reducing energy consumption.
(d) The estimated cost of the project.
(e) Whether the project is able to be powered by or to otherwise use sources of renewable energy.
(f) Whether the project has qualified for participation in [one or more of the following programs:

(1) The Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program created by NRS 701B.240;

(2) The Renewable Energy School Pilot Program created by NRS 701B.350;

(3) The Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.580;

(4) The Waterpower Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.820; or

(5) An energy efficiency or energy conservation program offered by a public utility, as defined in NRS 704.020, pursuant to a plan approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada pursuant to NRS 704.741.

4. As soon as practicable after an entity described in subsections 1, 2 and 3 selects a project, the entity shall proceed to enter into a contract with one or more contractors to perform the work on the project. The request for proposals and all contracts for each project must include, without limitation:

(a) Provisions stipulating that all employees of the contractors and subcontractors who work on the project must be paid prevailing wages pursuant to the requirements of chapter 338 of NRS;

(b) Provisions requiring that each contractor and subcontractor employed on each such project:

(1) Employ a number of persons trained as described in paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NRS 701B.921 that is equal to or greater than 50 percent of the total workforce the contractor or subcontractor employs on the project; or

(2) If the Director of the Department determines in writing, pursuant to a request submitted by the contractor or subcontractor, that the contractor or subcontractor cannot reasonably comply with the provisions of subparagraph (1) because there are not available a sufficient number of such trained persons, employ a number of persons trained as described in paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NRS 701B.921 or trained through any apprenticeship program that is registered and approved by the State Apprenticeship Council pursuant to chapter 610 of NRS that is equal to or greater than
50 percent of the total workforce the contractor or subcontractor employs on the project;

(c) A component pursuant to which persons trained as described in paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NRS 701B.921 must be classified and paid prevailing wages depending upon the classification of the skill in which they are trained; and

(d) A component that requires each contractor or subcontractor to offer to employees working on the project, and to their dependents, health care in the same manner as a policy of insurance pursuant to chapters 689A and 689B of NRS or the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

5. The State Public Works Board, each of the school districts and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada shall each provide a report to the Interim Finance Committee which describes the projects selected pursuant to this section and a report of the dates on which those projects are scheduled to be completed.

Secs. 44-46. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 47. NRS 338.1908 is hereby amended to read as follows:

338.1908  1. The governing body of each local government shall, by July 28, 2009, develop a plan to retrofit public buildings, facilities and structures, including, without limitation, traffic-control systems, and to otherwise use sources of renewable energy to serve those buildings, facilities and structures. Such a plan must:

(a) Be developed with input from one or more energy retrofit coordinators designated pursuant to NRS 338.1907, if any.

(b) Include a list of specific projects. The projects must be prioritized and selected on the basis of the following criteria:

(1) The length of time necessary to commence the project.

(2) The number of workers estimated to be employed on the project.

(3) The effectiveness of the project in reducing energy consumption.

(4) The estimated cost of the project.

(5) Whether the project is able to be powered by or otherwise use sources of renewable energy.

(6) Whether the project has qualified for participation in one or more of the following programs:

(I) The Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program created by NRS 701B.240;

(II) The Renewable Energy School Pilot Program created by NRS 701B.350;

(III) The Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.580,
(IV) The Waterpower Energy Systems Demonstration Program created by NRS 701B.820.

(c) Include a list of potential funding sources for use in implementing the projects, including, without limitation, money available through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program as set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 17152 and grants, gifts, donations or other sources of money from public and private sources.

2. The governing body of each local government shall transmit the plan developed pursuant to subsection 1 to the Nevada Energy Commissioner and to any other entity designated for that purpose by the Legislature.

3. As used in this section:
   (a) “Local government” means each city or county that meets the definition of “eligible unit of local government” as set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 17151 and each unit of local government, as defined in subsection 11 of NRS 338.010, that does not meet the definition of “eligible entity” as set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 17151.
   (b) “Renewable energy” means a source of energy that occurs naturally or is regenerated naturally, including, without limitation:
      (1) Biomass;
      (2) Fuel cells;
      (3) Geothermal energy;
      (4) Solar energy;
      (5) Waterpower; and
      (6) Wind.

The term does not include coal, natural gas, oil, propane or any other fossil fuel, or nuclear energy.

(c) “Retrofit” means to alter, improve, modify, remodel or renovate a building, facility or structure to make that building, facility or structure more energy-efficient.

Sec. 48. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 49. Section 113 of chapter 509, Statutes of Nevada 2007, at page 2999, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 113. 1. This act becomes effective:
   (a) Upon passage and approval for the purposes of adopting regulations and taking such other actions as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
   (b) For all other purposes besides those described in paragraph (a):
      (1) For this section and sections 1, 30, 32, 36 to 46, inclusive, 49, 51 to 61, inclusive, 107, 109, 110 and 111 of this act, upon passage and approval.
(2) For sections 1.5 to 29, inclusive, 43.5, 47, 51.3, 51.7, 108, 112 and 112.5 of this act, on July 1, 2007.
(3) For sections 62 to 106, inclusive, of this act, on October 1, 2007.
(4) For sections 31, 32.3, 32.5, 32.7, 33, 34 and 35 of this act, on January 1, 2009.
(5) For section 48 of this act, on January 1, 2010.
(6) For section 50 of this act, on January 1, 2011.

2. Sections 62 to [106], inclusive, 77 to 82, inclusive, 85 to 94, inclusive, and 95 to 105, inclusive, of this act expire by limitation on December 31, 2021.

Sec. 50. Section 13 of chapter 246, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at page 1002, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 13. 1. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2009.
2. Sections 2 and 3 of this act expire by limitation on December 31, 2021.

Sec. 51. Section 21 of chapter 321, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at page 1410, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 21. 1. This section and sections 1 to 1.51, inclusive, 1.55 to 19.7, inclusive, and 19.9 to 20.9, inclusive, of this act become effective upon passage and approval.
2. Sections 1.51, 1.85, 1.87, 1.92, 1.93, 1.95, 4.3 to 9, inclusive, and 19.4 of this act expire by limitation on December 31, 2021.
3. Sections 1.53 and 19.8 of this act become effective on July 1, 2011.

2. Sections 1.53 and 19.8 of chapter 321, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at pages 1372 and 1408, respectively, are hereby repealed.

Sec. 53. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 54. 1. This section and sections 1.3 to 42, inclusive, 44, 45, 46, 48 to 51, inclusive, subsection 2 of section 52 and section 53 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.
2. Sections 2, 43, 47 and subsection 1 of section 52 of this act become effective on January 1, 2022.