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STATE ENERGY POLICY AMENDMENTS

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Keith Grover

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

Committee Note:

The Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee recommended this bill.

General Description:

This bill amends the state energy policy.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ adds to the state energy policy the promotion of certain nuclear power generation technologies;
- ▶ adds to the state energy policy the promotion of energy development in certain areas;
- ▶ adds to the state energy policy the promotion of energy education programs in grades K-12; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:



28 **63M-4-301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 378



30 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

31 Section 1. Section **63M-4-301** is amended to read:

32 **63M-4-301. State energy policy.**

33 (1) It is the policy of the state that:

34 (a) Utah shall have adequate, reliable, affordable, sustainable, and clean energy
35 resources;

36 (b) Utah will promote the development of:

37 (i) nonrenewable energy resources, including natural gas, coal, oil, oil shale, and oil
38 sands; ~~and~~

39 (ii) renewable energy resources, including geothermal, solar, wind, biomass, biofuel,
40 and hydroelectric;

41 (iii) nuclear power generation technologies certified for use by the United States
42 Nuclear Regulatory Commission including molten salt reactors producing medical isotopes;

43 (iv) alternative transportation fuels and technologies; ~~and~~

44 (v) infrastructure to facilitate energy development ~~and~~, diversified modes of
45 transportation, greater access to domestic and international markets for Utah's resources, and
46 advanced transmission systems;

47 (vi) energy storage and other advanced energy systems; and

48 (vii) increased refinery capacity;

49 (c) Utah will promote the development of resources and infrastructure sufficient to
50 meet the state's growing demand, while contributing to the regional and national energy supply,
51 thus reducing dependence on international energy sources;

52 (d) Utah will allow market forces to drive prudent use of energy resources, although
53 incentives and other methods may be used to ensure the state's optimal development and use of
54 energy resources in the short- and long-term;

55 (e) Utah will pursue energy conservation, energy efficiency, and environmental quality;

56 (f) (i) state regulatory processes should be streamlined to balance economic costs with
57 the level of review necessary to ensure protection of the state's various interests; and

58 (ii) where federal action is required, Utah will encourage expedited federal action and

59 will collaborate with federal agencies to expedite review;

60 (g) Utah will maintain an environment that provides for stable consumer prices that are
61 as low as possible while providing producers and suppliers a fair return on investment,
62 recognizing that:

63 (i) economic prosperity is linked to the availability, reliability, and affordability of
64 consumer energy supplies; and

65 (ii) investment will occur only when adequate financial returns can be realized; and

66 (h) Utah will promote training and education programs focused on developing a
67 comprehensive understanding of energy, including:

68 (i) programs addressing:

69 ~~(i)~~ (A) energy conservation;

70 ~~(ii)~~ (B) energy efficiency;

71 ~~(iii)~~ (C) supply and demand; and

72 ~~(iv)~~ (D) energy related workforce development~~[-]; and~~

73 ~~(v)~~ (ii) energy education programs in grades K-12.

74 (2) State agencies are encouraged to conduct agency activities consistent with
75 Subsection (1).

76 (3) A person may not file suit to challenge a state agency's action that is inconsistent
77 with Subsection (1).