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HOUSE BILL 1480

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State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representative Donaghy; by request of Department of Commerce

1 AN ACT Relating to all-hazard emergency management in energy  
2 contingency plans; and amending RCW 43.21F.045.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.21F.045 and 2015 c 225 s 73 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The department shall supervise and administer energy-related  
7 activities as specified in RCW 43.330.904 and shall advise the  
8 governor and the legislature with respect to energy matters affecting  
9 the state.

10 (2) In addition to other powers and duties granted to the  
11 department, the department shall have the following powers and  
12 duties:

13 (a) Prepare and update all-hazard contingency plans for  
14 implementation in the event of energy shortages or emergencies. The  
15 plans shall conform to chapter 43.21G RCW and shall include analysis  
16 of human, natural, and cybersecurity hazards as well as procedures  
17 for determining when these shortages or emergencies exist, the state  
18 officers and agencies to participate in the determination, and  
19 actions to be taken by various agencies and officers of state  
20 government in order to reduce hardship and maintain the general  
21 welfare during these emergencies. The department shall coordinate the

1 activities undertaken pursuant to this subsection with other persons.  
2 The components of plans that require legislation for their  
3 implementation shall be presented to the legislature in the form of  
4 proposed legislation at the earliest practicable date. The department  
5 shall report to the governor and the legislature on probable,  
6 imminent, and existing energy shortages, and shall administer energy  
7 allocation and curtailment programs in accordance with chapter 43.21G  
8 RCW.

9 (b) Establish and maintain a central repository in state  
10 government for collection of existing data on energy resources,  
11 including:

12 (i) Supply, demand, costs, utilization technology, projections,  
13 and forecasts;

14 (ii) Comparative costs of alternative energy sources, uses, and  
15 applications; and

16 (iii) Inventory data on energy research projects in the state  
17 conducted under public and/or private auspices, and the results  
18 thereof.

19 (c) Coordinate federal energy programs appropriate for state-  
20 level implementation, carry out such energy programs as are assigned  
21 to it by the governor or the legislature, and monitor federally  
22 funded local energy programs as required by federal or state  
23 regulations.

24 (d) Develop energy policy recommendations for consideration by  
25 the governor and the legislature.

26 (e) Provide assistance, space, and other support as may be  
27 necessary for the activities of the state's two representatives to  
28 the Pacific northwest electric power and conservation planning  
29 council. To the extent consistent with federal law, the director  
30 shall request that Washington's councilmembers request the  
31 administrator of the Bonneville power administration to reimburse the  
32 state for the expenses associated with the support as provided in the  
33 Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (P.L.  
34 96-501).

35 (f) Cooperate with state agencies, other governmental units, and  
36 private interests in the prioritization and implementation of the  
37 state energy strategy elements and on other energy matters.

38 (g) Serve as the official state agency responsible for  
39 coordinating implementation of the state energy strategy.

1 (h) No later than December 1, 1982, and by December 1st of each  
2 even-numbered year thereafter, prepare and transmit to the governor  
3 and the appropriate committees of the legislature a report on the  
4 implementation of the state energy strategy and other important  
5 energy issues, as appropriate.

6 (i) Provide support for increasing cost-effective energy  
7 conservation, including assisting in the removal of impediments to  
8 timely implementation.

9 (j) Provide support for the development of cost-effective energy  
10 resources including assisting in the removal of impediments to timely  
11 construction.

12 (k) Adopt rules, under chapter 34.05 RCW, necessary to carry out  
13 the powers and duties enumerated in this chapter.

14 (l) Provide administrative assistance, space, and other support  
15 as may be necessary for the activities of the energy facility site  
16 evaluation council, as provided for in RCW 80.50.030.

17 (m) Appoint staff as may be needed to administer energy policy  
18 functions and manage energy facility site evaluation council  
19 activities. These employees are exempt from the provisions of chapter  
20 41.06 RCW.

21 (3) To the extent the powers and duties set out under this  
22 section relate to energy education, applied research, and technology  
23 transfer programs they are transferred to Washington State  
24 University.

25 (4) To the extent the powers and duties set out under this  
26 section relate to energy efficiency in public buildings they are  
27 transferred to the department of enterprise services.

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