

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0129

Reclamation of surface coal mines-turbine blades.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Barlow, Clem, Greear,
Larsen, Miller, Sommers and Stith and
Senator(s) Anderson, Bebout and Rothfuss

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to environmental quality; requiring the
2 environmental quality council to establish rules and
3 regulations for uses of wind turbine materials as
4 specified; making conforming amendments; and providing for
5 an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-11-402(a) by creating a new
10 paragraph (xiii) and by renumbering (xiii) as (xiv) is
11 amended to read:

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13 **35-11-402. Establishment of standards.**

14

1 (a) The council shall, upon recommendation by the
2 advisory board through the administrator and the director,
3 establish rules and regulations pursuant to the following
4 reclamation standards for the affected areas, including but
5 not limited to:

6

7 (xiii) Rules and regulations governing the use
8 of decommissioned wind turbine blades and towers to
9 backfill surface coal mining sites as part of an approved
10 reclamation plan. Rules promulgated under this paragraph
11 shall, at a minimum, provide for:

12

13 (A) Minimum depth requirements for the
14 burial of decommissioned wind turbine blades and towers to
15 be buried below the surface and above any aquifers as
16 defined in W.S. 35-11-103(h)(i). In setting depth
17 requirements under this subparagraph, the council,
18 administrator and director may consult standards for solid
19 waste management facilities established by the solid and
20 hazardous waste management division;

21

22 (B) The removal of all mechanical,
23 electrical and other materials from the decommissioned wind

1 turbine blades and towers allowing only the base material
2 of the blades and towers to be buried;

3
4 (C) Disposal fees to be remitted to the
5 department by the operator who allows disposal of
6 decommissioned wind turbine blades and towers in surface
7 coal mining sites, which shall be twenty-five percent (25%)
8 of any revenues collected by the operator for the disposal
9 of the decommissioned wind turbine blades and towers. The
10 fees collected under this subparagraph shall be credited to
11 the general fund;

12
13 (D) The incorporation or amendment of any
14 rules pertaining to solid and hazardous waste necessary to
15 allow for the disposal of decommissioned wind turbine
16 blades and towers in surface coal mining sites to be
17 reclaimed.

18
19 ~~(xiii)~~(xiv) Establishing such other rules and
20 regulations necessary to insure full compliance with all
21 requirements relating to reclamation, and the attainment of
22 those objectives directed to public health, safety, and
23 welfare.

