

April 21, 2005

H 1511. RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD. TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE STATE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF A RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD. Amends GS 62-2(a) to make it a policy of the State to promote the diversification of energy resources and private investment in renewable energy resources. Enacts new GS 62-155.1 requiring that beginning on January 1, 2007, at least 1% of the kilowatt hours of electricity sold to retail electric customers (means direct purchasers of electric power) in NC by each electricity supplier (includes public utilities, electric membership corporations, and municipalities that sell electricity to retail electric customers) be generated from renewable energy resources (includes solar, wind, small hydroelectric, geothermal, solar photovoltaic, and biomass energy). Percentage is to increase annually so that by January 1, 2016, at least 10% of the kilowatt hours of electricity sold to cited NC customers will be so generated. Requires minimum of 35% of renewable energy resources sold by electricity suppliers to retail electric customers in state to be generated from solar photovoltaic energy, solar thermal energy, wind energy, and biomass energy that utilizes methane gas as fuel.

Requires NC Utilities Comm'n to initiate a proceeding and adopt rules implementing the section's provisions. Authorizes Comm'n to adopt a procedure as an alternative to the public utility rate-fixing procedure in GS 62-133, to adjust the rates due solely to the costs of complying with new statute. Beginning on January 1, 2007, Comm'n is to track the amount of electricity from renewable resources sold in state to measure progress toward goal cited above. Comm'n must report by January 1 of each year to Joint Legislative Utility Review Committee and to Environmental Review Comm'n on percentage of this electricity sold in State. First report must be submitted by January 1, 2008.

Intro. by Harrison.

Ref. to Public Utilities

GS 62