

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1625, L.D. 2288, Bill, "An Act to Require a Total Least-cost Energy Plan and to Establish a Moratorium on Fossil-fuel Fired Electric Generation Facilities in This State"

Amend the amendment by inserting after the enacting clause and before section 1 the following:

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3191, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 671, §2, is amended to read:

§3191. Energy policy

The Legislature finds that it is in the best interests of the State to ensure that Maine and its electric utilities pursue a least-cost energy plan under which long-term environmental effects are given full consideration. The Legislature further finds that a least-cost energy plan takes into account many factors including cost, risk, environmental and health impacts, diversity of supply and all available alternatives, including purchases of power from Canadian sources. When the available alternatives are otherwise equivalent, including in terms of the costs to the Maine environment and public health in this State that, in the judgment of the commission, are not presently incorporated in cost projections for each resource, the commission shall give preference first to conservation and demand management and then to power purchased from qualifying facilities. Nothing in this section is intended to modify the commission's authority under section 3133, subsection 9.

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3192 is enacted to read:

§3192. Rules

The commission shall adopt by rule weighting factors that establish the relative long-term risks and benefits to the

State's environment and public health of each major energy resource likely to receive consideration in a utility's least-cost energy plan, including, but not limited to, utility-sponsored conservation; demand management measures for each customer class; wind generation; oil-fired, natural-gas-fired and coal-fired generation; hydroelectric generation; and nuclear power.

When an electric utility selects among projects proposed as resources for energy or capacity under section 3132, 3133 or 3133-A; the Electric Rate Reform Act; or the Small Power Production Act, the electric utility shall employ the weighting factors for environmental and public health effects that the commission adopts by rule under this section.'

Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 3 the following:

'Sec. 4. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from the Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1992-93

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Public Utilities - Administrative Division

Positions	(2.0)
Personal Services	\$92,800
All Other	110,000
Capital Expenditures	10,000

Provides for the allocation of funds for the salary, fringe benefits and operating expenses, including computer equipment, for 2 staff positions and for one-time consultant costs to adopt rules related to weighting factors.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
TOTAL**

\$212,800'

Further amend the amendment by renumbering the sections to read consecutively.

Further amend the amendment by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

FISCAL NOTE

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1992-93

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APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

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Other Funds

\$212,800

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10 The Public Utilities Commission will require an allocation
of \$212,800 in fiscal year 1992-93 from the Public Utilities
12 Commission Regulatory Fund for 2 staff positions, general
operating expenses and one-time consultant expenses of \$100,000
14 to adopt rules for weighting factors and to take these factors
into account as a component of commission determinations.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This amendment ensures that long-term environmental effects
of a least-cost energy plan are taken into consideration. The
22 amendment also adds an allocation section and a fiscal note to
the committee amendment.

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Filed by Rep. Gray of Sedgwick
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the
House
3/16/92 (Filing No. H-1127)