

1086

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

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Introduced by Sens. PARKER, DIAZ, DILAN, DUANE, HASSELL-THOMPSON, KRUGER, MONTGOMERY, SAMPSON, SERRANO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Energy and Telecommunications

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to directing the New York state energy research and development authority to conduct a study regarding siting processes for wind energy production facilities

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new  
2     section 1854-e to read as follows:  
3     S 1854-E. WIND ENERGY PRODUCTION FACILITIES SITING. 1. THE AUTHORITY  
4     IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF  
5     THE POTENTIAL SITING PROCESSES REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH WIND ENERGY  
6     PRODUCTION FACILITIES. SUCH STUDY SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:  
7     (A) AN ANALYSIS OF THE SITING PROCESSES THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR  
8     WIND ENERGY PRODUCTION FACILITIES;  
9     (B) THE KINDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDIES NECESSARY FOR SITING;  
10    (C) THE VISUAL, AUDIBLE OR ATMOSPHERIC IMPACTS OF WIND ENERGY FACILI-  
11    TIES THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE SITING PROCESS;  
12    (D) THE IMPACT OF THE CAPACITY OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN THE SITING  
13    PROCESS;  
14    (E) WHICH STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE SITING  
15    PROCESS;  
16    (F) THE INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR LOCAL AGENCIES CHARGED WITH MAKING  
17    TIMELY AND DEFENSIBLE DECISIONS TO GUIDE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT,  
18    INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, INSTALLATION AND OPERATING PROCEDURES,  
19    DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL ZONING AND LAND USE REGULATIONS;  
20    (G) THE KINDS OF REVENUE IMPLICATIONS IMPACTING THE LOCALITIES,  
21    INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROPERTY TAXES, NEGOTIATED VOLUNTARY  
22    PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES, AND LAND LEASES; AND

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (H) THE KINDS AND IMPACT OF LOCAL COMMUNITY INPUT IN THE SITING PROC-  
2 ESS.

3 2. THE AUTHORITY SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF SUCH STUDY TO THE GOVERNOR,  
4 THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE  
5 CHAIRPERSON OF THE SENATE ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AND  
6 THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ASSEMBLY ENERGY COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN ONE YEAR  
7 AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

8 3. UPON COMPLETION OF THE STUDY CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION ONE  
9 OF THIS SECTION, THE AUTHORITY SHALL DEVELOP AN OVERALL COMPREHENSIVE  
10 WIND ENERGY FACILITIES SITING PLAN. SUCH PLAN SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT  
11 THE RESULTS AND FINDINGS OF SUCH STUDY, AND SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE  
12 LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

13 (A) AN OUTLINE OF GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR SITING WIND ENERGY  
14 PRODUCTION FACILITIES;

15 (B) THE RESEARCH FOR POTENTIAL SITES FOR FUTURE FACILITIES;

16 (C) AN IDENTIFICATION OF EXISTING PLANTS THAT SHOULD BE TARGETED FOR  
17 EFFICIENCY UPGRADING; AND

18 (D) A PLAN FOR AT LEAST THREE PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN DIFFERENT  
19 REGIONS OF THE STATE WITHIN SIXTY DAYS OF THE PUBLICATION OF SUCH PLAN,  
20 AND A PROVISION FOR ADEQUATE WRITTEN TESTIMONIAL INPUT REGARDING SUCH  
21 PLAN.

22 4. THE AUTHORITY SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF SUCH WIND ENERGY PRODUCTION  
23 FACILITIES PLAN TO THE GOVERNOR, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE,  
24 THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SENATE ENERGY AND  
25 TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AND THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ASSEMBLY ENERGY  
26 COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN EIGHTEEN MONTHS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS  
27 SECTION.

28 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.