

STATE ENERGY POLICY AMENDMENTS

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends the state energy policy.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- adds to the state energy policy the promotion of energy development in certain areas;
adds to the state energy policy the promotion of energy education programs in grades K-12; and
makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

63M-4-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 378

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 63M-4-301 is amended to read:

63M-4-301. State energy policy.

(1) It is the policy of the state that:

- (a) Utah shall have adequate, reliable, affordable, sustainable, and clean energy resources;
(b) Utah will promote the development of:
(i) nonrenewable energy resources, including natural gas, coal, oil, oil shale, and oil sands; [and]
(ii) renewable energy resources, including geothermal, solar, wind, biomass, biofuel,

- 33 and hydroelectric;
- 34 (iii) nuclear power generation technologies certified for use by the United States
- 35 Nuclear Regulatory Commission;
- 36 (iv) alternative transportation fuels and technologies; [~~and~~]
- 37 (v) infrastructure to facilitate energy development [~~and~~], diversified modes of
- 38 transportation, and greater access to domestic and international markets for Utah's resources;
- 39 (vi) energy storage and other advanced energy systems; and
- 40 (vii) increased refinery capacity;
- 41 (c) Utah will promote the development of resources and infrastructure sufficient to
- 42 meet the state's growing demand, while contributing to the regional and national energy supply,
- 43 thus reducing dependence on international energy sources;
- 44 (d) Utah will allow market forces to drive prudent use of energy resources, although
- 45 incentives and other methods may be used to ensure the state's optimal development and use of
- 46 energy resources in the short- and long-term;
- 47 (e) Utah will pursue energy conservation, energy efficiency, and environmental quality;
- 48 (f) (i) state regulatory processes should be streamlined to balance economic costs with
- 49 the level of review necessary to ensure protection of the state's various interests; and
- 50 (ii) where federal action is required, Utah will encourage expedited federal action and
- 51 will collaborate with federal agencies to expedite review;
- 52 (g) Utah will maintain an environment that provides for stable consumer prices that are
- 53 as low as possible while providing producers and suppliers a fair return on investment,
- 54 recognizing that:
- 55 (i) economic prosperity is linked to the availability, reliability, and affordability of
- 56 consumer energy supplies; and
- 57 (ii) investment will occur only when adequate financial returns can be realized; and
- 58 (h) Utah will promote training and education programs focused on developing a
- 59 comprehensive understanding of energy, including:
- 60 (i) programs addressing:
- 61 [~~(i)~~] (A) energy conservation;
- 62 [~~(ii)~~] (B) energy efficiency;
- 63 [~~(iii)~~] (C) supply and demand; and

64           ~~[(iv)]~~ (D) energy related workforce development[-]; and

65           ~~[(v)]~~ (ii) energy education programs in grades K-12.

66           (2) State agencies are encouraged to conduct agency activities consistent with  
67 Subsection (1).

68           (3) A person may not file suit to challenge a state agency's action that is inconsistent  
69 with Subsection (1).