

Amend HB 1777 as follows:

1.) Section 38, Subchapter D, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 38.072 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.072. ELECTRIC TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT. (a) The commission shall adopt rules for the recovery of costs that utilities incur for research and development of technologies and business practices related to the production, transmission, distribution, storage, metering, and use of electricity; mitigating risks in competitive energy markets; minimizing the environmental impacts of production and delivery of electricity, and developing uniform commercial standards for the energy industry.

(b) The rules shall encourage utilities to take advantage of the research and development resources in this state and its institutions, with the objective of providing to the state and its citizens the benefits of advanced electricity technologies, systems, and processes; increased efficiency and reliability in the production, delivery, and use of electricity; reduced cost of providing electricity; and reduced environmental impact of electricity production and delivery, while contributing to economic development and job creation.