

By: Bonnen

H.B. No. 2713

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to an interim study concerning the state's demand for
3 electric generation capacity, the development of a long-term energy
4 plan, and the effects on the environment of electric generating
5 facilities.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE. (a) The Interim
8 Special Committee on Electric Energy Generation Capacity and
9 Environmental Impact is composed of:

10 (1) the chair of the House Environmental Regulation
11 Committee;

12 (2) the chair of the House Energy Resources Committee;

13 (3) the chair of the House Committee on Regulated
14 Industries;

15 (4) the chair of the Senate Natural Resources
16 Committee;

17 (5) the chair of the Senate Business and Commerce
18 Committee;

19 (6) four members of the house of representatives,
20 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

21 (7) five members of the senate, appointed by the
22 lieutenant governor.

23 (b) The speaker of the house of representatives and the
24 lieutenant governor shall each designate a co-chair from among the

1 committee members.

2 (c) Not later than the 60th day after the effective date of
3 this Act, the speaker of the house of representatives and the
4 lieutenant governor shall appoint the members of the interim
5 committee.

6 SECTION 2. STUDY; PLAN. (a) The committee shall:

7 (1) study the state's demand for electric generation
8 capacity for the next 25 years and the infrastructure and
9 technology available for meeting that demand;

10 (2) study the environmental effects of existing
11 electric generating facilities; and

12 (3) prepare a long-term electric energy and
13 environmental impact plan for the 80th Legislature that includes:

14 (A) an estimate of the demand for electric
15 generation capacity by this state for each of the next 25 years;

16 (B) an inventory of all existing electric
17 generating facilities operating in this state;

18 (C) an assessment of the types of, and amount of
19 electric generation capacity from, electric generation technology
20 available to be used to meet the demand for generation capacity,
21 including:

22 (i) coal;

23 (ii) renewable energy;

24 (iii) liquefied natural gas;

25 (iv) nuclear energy; and

26 (v) integrated gasification combined cycle
27 technology; and

1 (D) an assessment of the environmental effects of
2 existing and potential electric generating facilities and energy
3 generation technology, including the effects on:

4 (i) the emission of pollutants regulated by
5 the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Section 7412);

6 (ii) the effect on air quality in
7 nonattainment areas; and

8 (iii) whether an increase in emissions
9 would cause an area to become a nonattainment area.

10 (b) In preparing the plan required by Subsection (a), the
11 committee may consult with:

12 (1) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

13 (2) the Public Utility Commission of Texas; and

14 (3) the Railroad Commission of Texas.

15 (c) The committee shall file with the legislature the
16 long-term electric energy and environmental impact plan required by
17 Subsection (a) not later than January 15, 2009.

18 SECTION 3. COMMITTEE MEETINGS. The joint interim committee
19 shall meet initially at the joint call of the co-chairs, and the
20 committee shall subsequently hold meetings and public hearings at
21 the call of the co-chairs.

22 SECTION 4. COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES. The committee has
23 all powers and duties provided to special committees by the senate
24 and house of representatives rules of procedure, by Subchapter B,
25 Chapter 301, Government Code, and by policies of the committees on
26 administration.

27 SECTION 5. COMMITTEE FUNDING. (a) From the contingent

1 expense fund of the senate and the contingent expense fund of the
2 house of representatives equally, the members of the committee
3 shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out the
4 provisions of this Act in accordance with the senate and house of
5 representatives rules of procedure and the policies of the
6 committees on administration.

7 (b) Other necessary expenses of operation shall be paid from
8 the contingent expense fund of the senate and the contingent
9 expense fund of the house of representatives equally.

10 SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September
11 1, 2007.