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By:  Deshotel H.B. No. 4493

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to supplemental environmental projects authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 7.067, Water Code, is amended by adding Subsections (d), (e), and (f) to read as follows:

(d)  The commission may determine the types of projects that may be approved as a supplemental environmental project. For a respondent that is a local government, those types of projects must include:

(1)  purchasing, operating, or maintaining:

(A)  alternative fuel vehicles, including passenger cars, light trucks, heavy trucks, and buses; and

(B)  alternative fuel heavy equipment, including tractors, bulldozers, front-end loaders, and motor graders;

(2)  constructing, operating, or maintaining alternative fuel refueling infrastructure necessary to operate an alternative fuel fleet; and

(3)  providing energy efficiency upgrades to buildings and facilities owned by the local government, including heating, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting, and building envelope upgrades.

(e)  For a supplemental environmental project involving alternative fuel vehicles, the commission:

(1)  must allow the project to include:

(A)  the entire cost of the vehicle; and

(B)  any alternative fuel equipment or upgrades involved; and

(2)  may not limit the project to including only the difference in cost between conventional fuel vehicles, equipment, or upgrades and the alternative fuel counterparts.

(f)  The commission:

(1)  may not require a contract associated with a supplemental environmental project to be for a term of less than five years; and

(2)  must allow a contract associated with a supplemental environmental project to be renewable for periods of at least five years.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.