By:  Middleton, Kolkhorst S.B. No. 383

(In the Senate - Filed November 15, 2024; February 3, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce; May 5, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 3; May 5, 2025, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                    Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Schwertner           X

King                 X

Blanco               X

Campbell             X

Creighton            X

Johnson                  X

Kolkhorst            X

Menéndez                 X

Middleton            X

Nichols              X

Zaffirini                X

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 383 By:  Middleton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the interconnection to the ERCOT power grid of certain coastal facilities for the provision of electric service.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter Z, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.9155 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.9155.  INTERCONNECTION OF COASTAL WIND POWER FACILITY. (a) In this section, "wind power facility" includes:

(1)  a wind turbine generator; and

(2)  a facility or equipment used to support the operation of a wind turbine generator, including an electrical transmission or communications line, an electric transformer, a battery storage facility, an energy storage facility, or telecommunications equipment.

(b)  A person or entity may not interconnect to the ERCOT power grid:

(1)  a wind power facility located in the area in the Gulf of Mexico seaward of the coast that is within three marine leagues of the coast, as set under Section 11.0111, Natural Resources Code; or

(2)  a transmission or distribution facility that directly interconnects to a wind power facility located in the area in the Gulf of Mexico seaward of the coast that is within three marine leagues of the coast, as set under Section 11.0111, Natural Resources Code.

SECTION 2.  Section 39.9155, Utilities Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a wind power facility or transmission or distribution facility a person or entity seeks to interconnect to the ERCOT power grid on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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