Session of 2012

Senate Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2526

By Committee on Utilities

3-15

AN ACT concerning energy; relating to the state corporation commission, 2 powers and duties; amending K.S.A. 55-152 and 66-131 and K.S.A. 3 2011 Supp. 66-1257 and 66-1260 and repealing the existing sections.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

6 Section 1. K.S.A. 55-152 is hereby amended to read as follows: 55-7 152. (a) The commission shall adopt such rules and regulations necessary 8 for the implementation of this act including provisions for the 9 construction, operation and abandonment of any well and the protection of the usable water of this state from any actual or potential pollution from 10 any well. The commission may also promulgate rules and regulations 11 12 necessary for the supervision and disclosure of any well on which a 13 hydraulic fracturing treatment is performed. Any such rules and regulations relating to wells providing cathodic protection to prevent 14 15 corrosion to lines shall not preempt existing standards and policies adopted by the board of directors of a groundwater management district if such 16 17 standards and policies provide protection of fresh water to a degree equal 18 to or greater than that provided by such rules and regulations. No rules and 19 regulations promulgated pursuant to this section shall be adopted by the 20 commission until recommendations have been received from the advisory 21 committee established by K.S.A. 55-153, and amendments thereto.

22 (b) The commission annually shall review current drilling methods, 23 geologic formation standards, plugging techniques and casing and 24 cementing standards and materials. Based on such review, the 25 commission, if necessary, shall amend its rules and regulations to reflect 26 any changes to be made in such methods, standards, techniques and 27 materials from the previous year.

28 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 66-131 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-131. 29 (a) No common carrier or public utility, including that portion of any municipally owned utility defined as a public utility by K.S.A. 66-104, 30 31 governed by the provisions of this act shall transact business in the state of 32 Kansas until it shall have obtained a certificate from the corporation 33 commission that public convenience will be promoted by the transaction 34 of said business and permitting said applicants to transact the business of a 35 common carrier or public utility in this state. In no event shall such jurisdiction authorize the corporation commission to review, consider or 36

1 effect the facilities or rates charged for services or in any way the 2 operation of such municipally owned or operated electric or gas utility 3 within the corporate limits or outside but within three (3) miles of the 4 corporate limits of any city, or facilities, or rates charged for services or in 5 any way the operation of facilities or their replacements now owned by 6 any such utility except as provided in K.S.A. 66-131a. No prescribed rates, 7 orders or other regulatory supervision of the corporation commission shall 8 be contrary to any lawful provision of any revenue bond ordinance 9 authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to finance all or any part of the 10 municipally owned or operated electric or gas utility so subjected to the jurisdiction of the corporation commission. This section shall not apply to 11 12 any common carrier or public utility governed by the provisions of this act 13 now transacting business in this state, nor shall this section apply to the 14 facilities and operations of any municipally owned or operated utility supplying electricity or gas outside of the corporate limits of any 15 16 municipality where such facilities and operations are in existence on the 17 effective date of this act, but any extension of such facilities or any new 18 facilities located outside of and more than three (3) miles from the 19 municipality's corporate limits, shall be subject to the requirements of this 20 section, nor shall this section apply to any municipally owned or operated 21 electric or gas utility furnishing electricity or gas to a facility owned or 22 jointly owned by such municipality and located outside the corporate 23 limits of such municipality.

(b) The commission shall issue a decision on a common carrier or
public utility's application for a certificate of public convenience within
180 days of receiving the application. Nothing in this subsection shall
preclude an applicant and the commission from agreeing to a waiver or an
extension of the 180-day period.

29 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 66-1257 is hereby amended to read as 30 follows: 66-1257. As used in the renewable energy standards act:

(a) "Affected utility" means any electric public utility, as defined in
K.S.A. 66-101a, and amendments thereto, but does not include any portion
of any municipally owned or operated electric utility.

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(b) "Commission" means the state corporation commission.

(c) "Net renewable generation capacity" means the gross generation capacity of the renewable energy resource over a four-hour period when not limited by ambient conditions, equipment, operating or regulatory restrictions less auxiliary power required to operate the resource, and refers to resources located in the state or resources serving ratepayers in the state.

41 (d) "Peak demand" means the demand imposed by the affected 42 utility's retail load in the state.

43 (e) "Renewable energy credit" means a credit representing energy

produced by renewable energy resources issued as part of a program that
 has been approved by the state corporation commission.

3 (f) "Renewable energy resources" means net renewable generation 4 capacity from:

- 5 (1) Wind;
- 6 (2) solar thermal sources;

7 (3) photovoltaic cells and panels;

- 8 (4) dedicated crops grown for energy production;
- 9 (5) cellulosic agricultural residues;
- 10 (6) plant residues;
- 11 (7) methane from landfills or from wastewater treatment;
- 12 (8) clean and untreated wood products such as pallets;

13 (9) (A) existing hydropower;

14 (B) new hydropower; not including pumped storage, that has a-15 nameplate rating of 10 megawatts or less;

(10) fuel cells using hydrogen produced by one of the above-named
 renewable energy resources; and

(11) energy storage that is connected to any renewable generation by
 means of energy storage equipment including, but not limited to, batteries,
 fly wheels, compressed air storage and pumped hydro; and

21 (11) (12) other sources of energy, not including nuclear power, that 22 become available after the effective date of this section, and that are 23 certified as renewable by rules and regulations established by the 24 commission pursuant to K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 66-1262, and amendments 25 thereto.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 66-1260 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-1260. (*a*) (1) For each affected utility, the commission shall determine whether investment in renewable energy resources required to meet the renewable portfolio requirement, as required by K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 66-1258, and amendments thereto, causes the affected utility's total revenue requirement to increase one percent or greater.

32 (2) The commission shall annually determine the annual statewide 33 retail rate impact shall be determined net of new nonrenewable alternative 34 sources of electricity supply reasonably available at the time of the-35 determination resulting from affected utilities meeting the renewable 36 portfolio requirement.

(b) Submission of information pertaining to an affected utility's
portfolio requirement shall be determined by rules and regulations
promulgated by the commission or by order of the commission.

40 (c) Beginning in 2013, on or before March 1 of each year, the 41 commission shall submit a report of the annual statewide retail rate 42 impact for the previous year to the governor, the senate committee on 43 utilities and the house committee on energy and utilities.

- Sec. 5. K.S.A. 55-152 and 66-131 and K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 66-1257 and 66-1260 are hereby repealed. Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
- publication in the statute book.