

A bill for an act  
relating to energy; mandating inclusion of strategic tree planting as eligible for  
direct expenditures as energy conservation improvement.

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

Section 1. **ENERGY CONSERVATION PILOT PROJECT; STRATEGIC TREE  
PLANTING.**

(a) From July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, the Public Utilities Commission and  
the commissioner of commerce shall treat the strategic planting of trees and shrubs on  
property of a retail customer provided electric or gas service by a public utility, municipal  
utility, or cooperative electric association subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 216B.241,  
as promoting energy efficiency and eligible for direct expenditures and expense recovery  
under that statute as an energy conservation improvement.

(b) For purposes of this section, "strategic" refers to the placement of trees and  
shrubs to obtain the most advantageous impact on energy conservation for a retail  
customer facility, including but not limited to shelter belt protection and heat dissipation.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.