A bill for an act

relating to economic development; amending the definition of "green economy" to include the concept of "green chemistry"; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 116J.437, subdivision 1.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 116J.437, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purpose of this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(b) "Green economy" means products, processes, methods, technologies, or services intended to do one or more of the following:

(1) increase the use of energy from renewable sources, including through achieving the renewable energy standard established in section 216B.1691;

(2) achieve the statewide energy-savings goal established in section 216B.2401, including energy savings achieved by the conservation investment program under section 216B.241;

(3) achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction goals of section 216H.02, subdivision 1, including through reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, as defined in section 216H.01, subdivision 2, or mitigation of the greenhouse gas emissions through, but not limited to, carbon capture, storage, or sequestration;

(4) monitor, protect, restore, and preserve the quality of surface waters, including actions to further the purposes of the Clean Water Legacy Act as provided in section 114D.10, subdivision 1; ~~or~~

(5) expand the use of biofuels, including by expanding the feasibility or reducing the cost of producing biofuels or the types of equipment, machinery, and vehicles that can use biofuels, including activities to achieve the biofuels 25 by 2025 initiative in sections 41A.10, subdivision 2, and 41A.11; or

(6) increase the use of green chemistry to develop products, materials, and production processes that reduce environmental and human exposure to hazardous substances.

For the purpose of clause (3), "green economy" includes strategies that reduce carbon emissions, such as utilizing existing buildings and other infrastructure, and utilizing mass transit or otherwise reducing commuting for employees.

(c) "Green chemistry" means a practice that, by altering the inputs to a production process or by redesigning a product or production process: (i) reduces or eliminates the use or formation of hazardous substances or lessens their toxicity; or (ii) reduces energy consumption, uses renewable feedstock, or reduces or prevents waste or pollution.

(d) "Hazardous substance": (i) has the meaning given in section 115B.02, subdivision 8, or (ii) is a "chemical of high concern," as defined in section 116.9401, paragraph (e).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.