ARTICLE 8

RENEWABLE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS

Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS.

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779, subdivision 1, paragraph (j), the appropriations are from the renewable development account in the special revenue fund established in Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779, subdivision 1, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively. The first year is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation

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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Geothermal Energy System; Sabathani Community Center

(a) $6,000,000 the second year is for a grant to the Sabathani Community Center in Minneapolis to construct a geothermal energy system that provides space heating and cooling to the center. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2027.

Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation

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(b) For the purposes of this subdivision, "geothermal energy system" means a system composed of: a heat pump that moves a heat-transferring fluid through piping embedded in the earth and absorbs the earth's constant temperature; a heat exchanger; and ductwork to distribute heated and cooled air to a building.

(b) $2,500,000 in fiscal year 2025 is for transfer to the geothermal planning grant account established under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.47, for planning grants to political subdivisions to assess the feasibility and cost of constructing geothermal energy systems. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2029.

Subd. 3. Energy Efficiency Projects; Dakota County

(a) $500,000 the second year is for a grant to Dakota County for energy efficiency projects that are located in the service area of the public utility subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.779. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027. The base budget for this appropriation is $500,000 in fiscal year 2026 and $0 in fiscal year 2027.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "energy efficiency project" includes: (1) LED lighting, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 216B.241, subdivision 5; (2) solar arrays; or (3) heating, ventilating, or air conditioning system improvements.

Subd. 4. Anaerobic Digester Energy System

(a) $5,000,000 the second year is for a grant to Ramsey County Recycling and Energy, in partnership with Center and Dem-Con HZI Bioenergy LLC, to construct an anaerobic energy system in Louisville.

(c) $5,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 is for a grant to Ramsey County Recycling and Energy, in partnership with Dem-Con HZI Bioenergy LLC, to construct an anaerobic digester energy system.
Township. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027. The base budget for this appropriation is $5,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 and $0 in fiscal year 2027.

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision, "anaerobic energy system" means a facility that uses diverted food and organic waste to create renewable natural gas and biochar.

(d) $1,700,000 in fiscal year 2025 is for transfer to the SolarAPP+ program account established under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.48, for the awarding of incentives to local units of government that deploy federally developed software to automate the review of applications and issuance of permits for residential solar projects. Incentives may only be awarded to political subdivisions located within the electric service territory of the public utility that is required to make payments under Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.579, subdivision 1. This is a onetime transfer.

Subd. 5. Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota

$400,000 the second year is for a grant to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota to install solar panels. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2027.

Subd. 6. Ultraefficient Vehicle Development Grants

$250,000 the second year is transferred to the ultraefficient vehicle development grant account under section 4, subdivision 4, to provide grants for developers and producers of ultraefficient vehicles. This is a onetime transfer.
95.9 Subd. 7. *Geothermal Heat Exchange System Rebate Program*

95.10 $1,500,000 the second year is transferred to the geothermal heat exchange system rebate account established under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.47, to provide rebates for geothermal heat exchange systems for eligible applicants. This is a one-time transfer.

95.11 Subd. 8. *Administrative Costs*

95.12 (a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner may use up to two percent of the appropriations in subdivisions 2 to 5 for administrative costs.

95.13 (b) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner may use up to five percent of the appropriations in subdivisions 6 and 7 for administrative costs.