

CHAPTER 216C

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE; ENERGY DIVISION

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216C.051 LEGISLATIVE ELECTRIC ENERGY TASK FORCE.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 2. Establishment. (a) There is established a legislative electric energy task force to study future electric energy sources and costs and to make recommendations for legislation for an environmentally and economically sustainable and advantageous electric energy supply.

(b) The task force consists of:

(1) ten members of the house of representatives including the chairs of the environment and natural resources and regulated industries and energy committees and six members to be appointed by the speaker of the house, four of whom must be from the minority caucus;

(2) ten members of the senate including the chairs of the environment and natural resources and jobs, energy, and community development committees and six members to be appointed by the subcommittee on committees, four of whom must be from the minority caucus.

(c) The task force may employ staff, contract for consulting services, and may reimburse the expenses of persons requested to assist it in its duties other than state employees or employees of electric utilities. The director of the legislative coordinating commission shall assist the task force in administrative matters. The task force shall elect cochair, one member of the house and one member of the senate from among the committee chairs named to the committee. The task force members from the house shall elect the house cochair, and the task force members from the senate shall elect the senate cochair.

[For text of subds 3 to 5, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 6. Assessment; appropriation. On request by the cochair of the legislative task force and after approval of the legislative coordinating commission, the commissioner of the department of public service shall assess from electric utilities, in addition to assessments made under section 216B.62, the amount requested for the operation of the task force not to exceed \$700,000. This authority to assess continues until the commissioner has assessed a total of \$700,000. The amount assessed under this section is appropriated to the director of the legislative coordinating commission for those purposes, and is available until expended.

[For text of subds 7 to 9, see M.S.1996]

History: 1997 c 191 art 1 s 6,7

216C.06 DEFINITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 to 9, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 10. [Repealed, 1997 c 7 art 1 s 91]

Subd. 11. [Repealed, 1997 c 7 art 1 s 91]

[For text of subds 12 and 13, see M.S.1996]

216C.19 ENERGY CONSERVATION.

[For text of subds 1 to 4, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 5. **Natural gas outdoor lighting prohibited; exception.** After July 1, 1974, no new natural gas outdoor lighting shall be installed in the state. However, the installation and use of natural gas outdoor lighting that is equipped with either an automatic daytime shutoff device or is otherwise capable of being switched on and off, is permitted.

[For text of subds 6 to 20, see M.S.1996]

History: 1997 c 191 art 1 s 8

216C.195 ENERGY CODE AMENDMENTS; COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 3. **Lighting standards.** The standards adopted under subdivision 1 must be at least as stringent as lighting standards for new federal buildings in Code of Federal Regulations, title 10, section 435.103.

History: 1997 c 206 s 10

216C.27 ENERGY CONSERVATION IN EXISTING RESIDENCES.

[For text of subds 1 to 6, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 7. **Building evaluators.** The commissioner shall certify evaluators in each county of the state who are qualified to determine the compliance of a residence with applicable energy efficiency standards. The commissioner shall, by rule pursuant to chapter 14, adopt standards for the certification and performance of evaluators and set a fee for the certification of evaluators which is sufficient to cover the ongoing costs of the program once it is established. The commissioner shall encourage the certification of existing groups of trained municipal personnel and qualified individuals from community-based organizations and public service organizations. Each certified evaluator shall, on request of the owner, inspect any residence and report the degree to which it complies with applicable energy efficiency standards established pursuant to subdivision 1. The inspections shall be made within 30 days of the request. The commissioner shall enter into an agreement with the board of trustees of the Minnesota state colleges and universities for the provision of evaluator training at institutions that offer the technical training. The commissioner may contract with the board to reduce the training costs to the students. The commissioner may eliminate the examination fee for persons seeking upgraded certificates. The commissioner may also establish requirements for continuing education, periodic recertification, and revocation of certification for evaluators.

[For text of subd 8, see M.S.1996]

History: 1997 c 183 art 3 s 27

216C.35 PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING.

All applications for funding shall be made to the commissioner. Applications shall be accompanied by a report on the energy using characteristics of the building and any other information the commissioner may reasonably require.

History: 1997 c 7 art 1 s 92

216C.41 RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION INCENTIVE.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(b) "Qualified hydroelectric facility" means a hydroelectric generating facility in this state that:

- (1) is located at the site of a dam, if the dam was in existence as of March 31, 1994; and
- (2) begins generating electricity after July 1, 1994.

(c) "Qualified wind energy conversion facility" means a wind energy conversion system that:

(1) produces two megawatts or less of electricity as measured by nameplate rating and begins generating electricity after June 30, 1997, and before July 1, 1999; or

(2) begins generating electricity after June 30, 1999, produces two megawatts or less of electricity as measured by nameplate rating, and is:

(i) located within one county and owned by a natural person who owns the land where the facility is sited;

(ii) owned by a Minnesota small business as defined in section 645.445;

(iii) owned by a nonprofit organization; or

(iv) owned by a tribal council if the facility is located within the boundaries of the reservation.

[For text of subds 2 to 5, see M.S.1996]

History: 1997 c 216 s 124