



Updates on Ohio's Energy Mandates

Krystina Schaefer, Administrator
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Rates & Analysis Department

Krystina.Schaefer@puc.state.oh.us



Senate Bill 221

Effective Date: 7/30/2008

- Establishes alternative energy benchmarks for electric distribution utilities and electric service companies, provides for the use of renewable energy credits.
- Establishes energy efficiency standards for electric distribution utilities.
- As enrolled:

http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=127_SB_221





Senate Bill 310

Effective Date: 9/12/2014

- Modifies the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand requirements and creates a study committee.

- As enrolled:

http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cf m?ID=130_SB_310





Energy Mandates Study Committee

1. Six members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with not more than four members from the same political party;
2. Six members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, with not more than four members from the same political party;
3. The chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission who serves as a nonvoting member.





Energy Mandates Study Committee



SB310 requires the Study Committee to submit a report of its findings to the House and Senate that includes, at a minimum, the following:

- *A cost-benefit analysis of the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction mandates, including the projected costs on electric customers if the mandates were to remain at the percentage levels required under sections 4928.64 and 4928.66 of the Revised Code, as amended by this act;*
- *A recommendation of the best, evidence-based standard for reviewing the mandates in the future, including an examination of readily available technology to attain such a standard;*
- *The potential benefits of an opt-in system for the mandates, in contrast to an opt-out system for the mandates, and a recommendation as to whether an opt-in system should apply to all electric customers, whether an opt-out system should apply to only certain customers, or whether a hybrid of these two systems is recommended;*
- *A recommendation on whether costs incurred by an electric distribution utility or an electric services company pursuant to any contract, which may be entered into by the utility or company on or after the effective date of S.B. 310 of the 130th General Assembly for the purpose of procuring renewable energy resources or renewable energy credits and complying with the requirements of section 4928.64 of the Revised Code, may be passed through to any consumer, if such costs could have been avoided with the inclusion of a change of law provision in the contract;*





Energy Mandates Study Committee

- *A review of the risk of increased grid congestion due to the anticipated retirement of coal-fired generation capacity and other factors; the ability of distributed generation, including combined heat and power and waste energy recovery, to reduce electric grid congestion; and the potential benefit to all energy consumers resulting from reduced grid congestion;*
- *An analysis of whether there are alternatives for the development of advanced energy resources as that term is defined in section 4928.01 of the Revised Code;*
- *An assessment of the environmental impact of the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction mandates on reductions of greenhouse gas and fossil fuel emissions;*
- *A review of payments made by electric distribution utilities to third-party administrators to promote energy efficiency and peak demand reduction programs under the terms of the utilities' portfolio plans. The review shall include, but shall not be limited to, a complete analysis of all fixed and variable payments made to those administrators since the effective date of S.B. 221 of the 127th General Assembly, jobs created, retained, and impacted, whether those payments outweigh the benefits to ratepayers, and whether those payments should no longer be recovered from ratepayers. The review also shall include a recommendation regarding whether the administrators should submit periodic reports to the Commission documenting the payments received from utilities.*





Energy Mandates Study Committee



Recommendations:

1. Extend the SB 310 freeze indefinitely
2. Provide an expedited process at the PUCO for the review of new utility plans for energy efficiency
3. Investigate and ensure maximum credit for all of Ohio's energy initiatives
4. Switch from energy mandates to energy incentives
5. Declare that the General Assembly retains statutory authority with respect to energy policy and dispatch protocols.



Final report available here: <http://emsc.legislature.ohio.gov/>





Questions?

