

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1115

Final Reading

Introduced by Davis, 43; Brasch, 16; Dubas, 34; Haar, 21; Schilz,
47; Seiler, 33; Smith, 14; Sullivan, 41.

Read first time January 22, 2014

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to state intent to appropriate
- 2 additional funds to the Nebraska Power Review Board for a
- 3 study; to state public policy; and to declare an
- 4 emergency.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to
2 appropriate an additional \$200,000 for FY2014-15 to the Nebraska
3 Power Review Board from the General Fund to provide funds to conduct
4 or cause to be conducted a study of state, regional, and national
5 transmission infrastructure and policy and future needs for
6 transmission infrastructure and policy to serve Nebraska electric
7 consumers and utilities and generation facilities in Nebraska seeking
8 to export electricity outside of the state.

9 Sec. 2. It is the policy of the state to encourage and
10 allow opportunities for development and operation of renewable energy
11 facilities intended primarily for export from the state in a manner
12 that protects the ratepayers of consumer-owned utility systems
13 operating in the state from subsidizing the costs of such export
14 facilities through their rates and that results in economic
15 development and employment opportunities for residents and
16 communities of the state.

17 Sec. 3. The purposes of the study provided for under
18 sections 1 to 5 of this act shall include, but not be limited to,
19 identification of electric transmission and generation constraints
20 and opportunities, federal and state legal and regulatory
21 requirements and practices, national and regional transmission
22 operation, national and regional transmission plans and policies,
23 national and regional markets for electricity export and
24 opportunities for and barriers to exporting electricity to such
25 markets, and economic development benefits of expanded state,

1 regional, and national transmission connections.

2 Sec. 4. The scope of the study provided for under
3 sections 1 to 5 of this act shall receive input from a working group
4 that may include, but not be limited to, members of the Legislature,
5 the State Energy Office, the Department of Economic Development,
6 public power districts and other Nebraska electric providers,
7 renewable energy development companies, municipalities, the Southwest
8 Power Pool, the Western Area Power Administration, other transmission
9 system owners, transmission operators, transmission developers,
10 environmental interests, and other interested parties.

11 Sec. 5. (1) The Nebraska Power Review Board shall issue a
12 request for proposals to conduct the study provided for under
13 sections 1 to 5 of this act after consultation with the working group
14 as provided for in section 4 of this act.

15 (2) Any contracts or agreements entered into under this
16 section shall not be subject to the Nebraska Consultants' Competitive
17 Negotiation Act or sections 73-301 to 73-306 or 73-501 to 73-510.

18 (3) The Nebraska Power Review Board shall present the
19 results of the study to the Executive Board of the Legislative
20 Council with a copy to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor
21 on or before December 15, 2014. The report shall be submitted
22 electronically.

23 Sec. 6. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect
24 when passed and approved according to law.