

1 existing energy research and development, ~~efforts~~ use, supply chain
2 activity, and infrastructure related to Oklahoma's core energy
3 competencies by:

4 1. Promoting research and development in the areas of
5 conventional and unconventional oil and natural gas development and
6 production, hydrogen production, storage, and distribution, CO₂
7 enhanced oil recovery, wind forecasting, advanced biofuels, energy
8 storage, water management, energy policy and economic analysis,
9 energy system optimization, renewable energy integration into the
10 electrical grid, and similar energy technologies;

11 2. Fostering communication and collaboration between state and
12 federal governmental agencies, institutions of higher education,
13 ~~nonprofit research institutions~~, and private entities located
14 throughout Oklahoma;

15 3. Advancing research and development programs and growing
16 production, supply chain activity, and infrastructure that provide
17 benefits to all industries and regions of the state;

18 4. Streamlining research and development efforts between
19 private and public industry to create synergistic relationships that
20 coordinate, not duplicate, ~~research~~ efforts;

21 5. Establishing Oklahoma as a regional resource and
22 clearinghouse for transformative energy technologies in the areas of
23 traditional energy, hydrogen production, storage, and distribution,
24 and renewable resource research and development;

1 6. Attracting best-in-class researchers to Oklahoma in
2 competency areas aligned with Oklahoma's natural resource base;

3 7. Coordinating with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to
4 enhance venture capital investment in energy-related research and
5 business opportunities; and

6 8. Promoting seed funding that can be leveraged against state,
7 federal, and private-source funding to establish sufficient startup
8 resources.

9 B. The Initiative may receive assistance from any state agency
10 or public entity to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Energy
11 Initiative Act, including, but not limited to, administrative
12 assistance, staffing or legal counsel and provision of office space
13 or equipment as necessary. Assistance agreements may be made by
14 memorandums of understanding or as otherwise provided by law.

15 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2021, Section 802.3, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 802.3. A. The Oklahoma Low Carbon Energy Initiative
18 shall be administered and governed by the Oklahoma Low Carbon Energy
19 Initiative Board, made up of representatives of the contributing
20 institutions and entities of the Initiative which ~~initially~~ shall ~~be~~
21 include but not be limited to the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma
22 State University, ~~Oklahoma City University,~~ and the University of
23 Tulsa, ~~and the Noble Foundation.~~ Additional contributing
24 ~~institutions~~ members may be added at the discretion of the Board, ~~as~~

1 ~~such institutions~~ if they contribute to the purpose, objectives, and
2 research coordinated by the Initiative. ~~Additional contributing~~
3 ~~institutions may include state, federal, and private agencies,~~
4 ~~institutions of higher education, nonprofit research institutions,~~
5 ~~and private entities.~~

6 B. The Board shall ~~initially~~ consist of ~~six (6)~~ eleven (11)
7 members as follows:

8 1. One member, who shall serve as the chair of the Board, shall
9 be the Secretary of Energy and Environment or a member otherwise
10 appointed by the Governor;

11 2. One member shall be the Vice President ~~of~~ for Research from
12 the University of Oklahoma or a member otherwise appointed by the
13 President of the University of Oklahoma;

14 3. One member shall be the Vice President ~~of~~ for Research from
15 Oklahoma State University or a member otherwise appointed by the
16 President of Oklahoma State University;

17 4. One member shall be the Vice President ~~of~~ for Research from
18 the University of Tulsa or a member otherwise appointed by the
19 ~~Governor~~ President of the University of Tulsa;

20 5. One member who shall ~~be the Vice President of Research from~~
21 ~~Oklahoma City University or a member otherwise~~ represent the
22 Oklahoma Department of Commerce, appointed by the ~~Speaker of the~~
23 ~~House of Representatives~~ Director of the Department of Commerce; and
24

1 6. One member who shall represent the ~~Samuel Roberts Noble~~
2 ~~Foundation~~ Department of Labor, appointed by the ~~President Pro~~
3 ~~Tempore of the Senate~~ Commissioner of Labor;

4 7. One member who shall represent the Department of
5 Environmental Quality, appointed by the Executive Director of the
6 Department of Environmental Quality;

7 8. One member who shall represent the Corporation Commission,
8 appointed by the Chair of the Commission;

9 9. One member who shall represent the Department of
10 Transportation, appointed by the Director of the Department of
11 Transportation;

12 10. One member who shall represent the Oklahoma Water Resources
13 Board, appointed by the Executive Director of the Water Resources
14 Board; and

15 11. One member who shall represent the Oklahoma Center for the
16 Advancement of Science and Technology, appointed by the Executive
17 Director of the Center for the Advancement of Science and
18 Technology.

19 C. 1. The Board shall establish an Energy Industry Advisory
20 Council, appointed by the chair, for the purposes of providing
21 industry expertise and knowledge, assisting the Board with annual
22 report requirements, providing general recommendations, and other
23 support as needed to advance the efforts of the Board.

1 2. Members appointed to the Council shall serve at the pleasure
2 of the chair of the Board.

3 D. Board members shall serve for a term of four (4) years,
4 which shall begin on January 1 of the first year of the appointment
5 and end on December 31 of the fourth year. There shall be no limit
6 to the number of consecutive terms served. If a vacancy should
7 occur during a member's term, the appointing authority for the
8 vacant position shall appoint a new member to fill the remainder of
9 the unexpired term. Board members shall serve without compensation
10 but may be eligible for necessary travel expenses pursuant to the
11 State Travel Reimbursement Act.

12 ~~D.~~ E. The Board shall be responsible for establishing
13 procedures for the Initiative and operations of the Board and the
14 Advisory Council. The rules may provide for protection from public
15 disclosure of trade secrets and proprietary information of any kind,
16 including, but not limited to, data, processes and technology, as
17 the Board determines necessary.

18 ~~E.~~ F. The Board shall undertake activities and commission
19 programs, through the contributing institutions and entities, to
20 achieve the purpose and satisfy the objectives of the Initiative as
21 provided in the Oklahoma Energy Initiative Act. The Board shall
22 have authority to distribute funding for such activities and
23 programs. The Board may employ staff as it deems necessary.

1 ~~F.~~ G. The Board, in consultation with the Advisory Council and
2 any other party deemed necessary, shall prepare an annual, written
3 report to summarize the annual progress of the Initiative, including
4 summaries of its programs and their progress and outcomes. The
5 report shall be made available to the public and shall be
6 distributed to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the
7 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

8 ~~G.~~ H. The provisions of ~~The~~ the Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act
9 shall not apply to any project, activity or contract of the
10 Initiative or the Board.

11 ~~H.~~ I. No Board member or any person acting on behalf of the
12 Board, Advisory Council, or Initiative executing any contracts,
13 commitments or agreements issued by or on behalf of the Oklahoma Low
14 Carbon Energy Initiative shall be personally liable for the
15 contracts, commitments, or agreements or be subject to any personal
16 liability or accountability by reason thereof. No director or any
17 person acting on behalf of the Board or Initiative shall be
18 personally liable for damage or injury resulting from the
19 performance of duties hereunder.

20 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

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22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
23 dated 04/07/2022 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.

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