

SENATE FILE NO. SF0031

Advanced conversion technologies study.

Sponsored by: Joint Minerals, Business and Economic  
Development Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to minerals; providing for the issuance of  
2 proposals for a mineral to liquid fuel commercial facility  
3 feasibility study as specified; requiring a report;  
4 providing for a matching fund program; providing  
5 legislative findings; providing an appropriation; providing  
6 for the submission of an application for abandoned mine  
7 land funds as specified; providing a sunset date; and  
8 providing for an effective date.

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10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.**

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14 (a) The task force created pursuant to 2007 Wyoming  
15 Session Laws, Chapter 186, Section 2 and codified at W.S.  
16 21-17-121 shall issue requests for proposals for front end

1 engineering and design studies to determine the feasibility  
2 of constructing and operating a commercial scale facility  
3 which converts minerals to liquid fuels. The task force  
4 shall review and evaluate proposals for a commercial scale  
5 minerals to liquid fuels facility feasibility study,  
6 subject to the following:

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8 (i) Proposals may be received from academic  
9 institutions and private industry proponents;

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11 (ii) Proposals shall be evaluated competitively  
12 on their anticipated benefits to the state of Wyoming and  
13 the probability that funding of the proposal will result in  
14 the construction of one (1) or more commercial scale  
15 minerals to liquid fuels conversion facilities within the  
16 state;

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18 (iii) Proposals shall ultimately result in the  
19 enhancement of Wyoming mineral products and add monetary  
20 value to the same;

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22 (iv) Applicants shall demonstrate their  
23 financial and operational ability to begin construction of  
24 a commercial scale minerals to liquid fuels conversion

1 facility within two (2) years of completion of the front  
2 end engineering and design study; and

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4 (v) Applicants shall demonstrate their  
5 willingness and ability to match any funding from the  
6 account on a dollar for dollar basis.

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8 (b) The task force shall issue a report to the  
9 governor and the joint minerals, business and economic  
10 development interim committee no later than September 30,  
11 2012 regarding funding recommendations for front end  
12 engineering and design studies for the construction and  
13 operation of a commercial scale minerals to liquid fuels  
14 facility in Wyoming.

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16 (c) The task force may award funds in the research  
17 account created by W.S. 39-14-802 sixty (60) days after  
18 submitting the task force's recommendations to the joint  
19 minerals, business and economic development interim  
20 committee. No funds shall be expended from the account  
21 without a match of funds at least equal to the expenditure  
22 from the account and the written opinion of the attorney  
23 general certifying the legality of the transaction and all  
24 documents connected therewith.

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**Section 2.**

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(a) The legislature of the state of Wyoming finds that front end engineering and design studies for the construction and operation of a commercial scale minerals to liquid fuels facility in Wyoming is necessary to:

(i) Protect tax and mineral revenues to the state of Wyoming from coal of more than two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000.00) per year;

(ii) Protect coal industry related jobs in Wyoming estimated to be in excess of six thousand eight hundred (6,800) jobs per year;

(iii) Provide and promote value added processing of minerals in the state of Wyoming;

(iv) Address issues relating to energy on a national and international policy level; and

(v) Further the public interest in maintaining and promoting Wyoming's energy industries within the state.

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2 (b) The expenditure of funds pursuant to the  
3 provisions of this act further those public interests of  
4 the state.

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6 **Section 3.**

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8 (a) There is appropriated ten million dollars  
9 (\$10,000,000.00) from the general fund to the research  
10 account created by W.S. 39-14-802 for the purpose of  
11 funding one (1) or more front end engineering and design  
12 studies to determine the feasibility of constructing and  
13 operating a commercial scale facility which converts  
14 minerals to liquid fuels. Notwithstanding any other  
15 provision of law, this appropriation shall not be  
16 transferred or expended for any other purpose.  
17 Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 or 9-4-207, unexpended,  
18 unobligated funds shall revert on June 30, 2016.

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20 (b) The department of environmental quality is  
21 authorized to submit to the office of surface mining, a  
22 grant application for funds from the state of Wyoming's  
23 share of abandoned mine land funds from the Surface Mining

1 Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2006, Section  
2 411(h)(i), pursuant to 2007 H.R. 6111 as follows:

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4 (i) The grant application shall be for an amount  
5 equal to the general fund appropriation under this section.  
6 Any funds received pursuant to the grant, shall be  
7 deposited to the research account created by W.S.  
8 39-14-802, and shall be used to the extent permitted by  
9 federal law to supplant the general fund appropriation made  
10 in this section. To the extent those general funds are  
11 unexpended, unobligated and supplanted they shall be  
12 redeposited to the general fund as supplanted by federal  
13 funds;

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15 (ii) The application shall be submitted as soon  
16 as feasible after the effective date of this act.

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18 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon  
19 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
20 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
21 Constitution.

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(END)