

SESSION OF 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2708

As Recommended by House Committee on
Energy and Utilities

Brief*

HB 2708 would broaden the definition of renewable energy resources in the Renewable Energy Standards Act. Energy storage connected to any renewable generation by means of energy storage equipment would be considered a renewable resource for purposes of the Act. In addition, the bill would remove existing limitations on the type of new hydropower that could qualify as a renewable energy resource.

Under current law, utilities (except those owned by municipalities) are required to have net renewable generating capacity constituting a certain percentage of their peak demand. This bill would allow utilities to count energy produced by renewable sources and stored for later use toward the utility's net renewable generation capacity in order to comply with the renewable portfolio standards.

Background

HB 2708 contains the contents of the introduced version of HB 2446 as amended by the House Energy and Utilities Committee.

The following actions were taken on the introduced version of HB 2446 in Committee:

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

- Representative Tom Sloan testified this bill would be important to renewable energy developers, electric utilities, the Southwest Power Pool, and electric customers as they seek to move renewable energy from simply being energy to capacity available for dispatch. There was no testimony in opposition to the bill; and
- The House Energy and Utilities Committee amended the introduced version of HB 2446 to remove language that defined new hydropower as a renewable energy resource only if the hydropower had a nameplate rating of ten megawatts or less.

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget for HB 2708 indicates the bill would have no fiscal effect on the Kansas Corporation Commission.