

Bill Status - 2009 1st Special Session

House Bill 103


Legislative Session: 2009(1X)

LAST ACTION: *Effective July 1, 2009*

SUMMARY: Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Act

LEAD SPONSOR: Mr. Speaker (Mr. Thompson)

SPONSORS: Armstead

BILL TEXT: Enrolled Version - [html](#) | [pdf](#) | [wpd](#)
[Bill Definitions](#) 

CODE AFFECTED: §24 - 2 F- 1 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 2 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 3 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 4 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 5 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 6 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 7 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 8 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 9 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 10 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 11 *(New Code)*
 §24 - 2 F- 12 *(New Code)*

SAME AS: SB 1013

SUBJECT(S): Energy
 Governor -- Bills Requested By
 Public Service Commission

ACTIONS:

	Description	Date	Journal Page
Effective July 1, 2009			
H	Chapter 9, Acts, 1st Extraordinary Session, 2009	06/23/09	
H	Approved by Governor 6/17/09	06/17/09	
H	Approved by Governor 6/17/09 - House Journal	06/02/09	120
S	Approved by Governor 6/17/09 - Senate Journal	06/02/09	72
H	To Governor 6/16/09	06/16/09	
H	To Governor 6/16/09 - House Journal	06/02/09	118
S	To Governor 6/16/09 - Senate Journal	06/02/09	71
S	House Message received	06/02/09	67
H	Completed legislative action	06/02/09	
H	Communicated to Senate	06/02/09	113
H	Effective July 1, 2009 (Roll No. 577)	06/02/09	112
H	<u>House concurred in Senate amendment and passed bill (Roll No. 576)</u>	06/02/09	112
H	House received Senate message	06/02/09	111

S	Senate requests House to concur	06/02/09	52
S	Effective July 1, 2009 (Roll No. 8)	06/02/09	52
S	Passed Senate (Roll No. 8)	06/02/09	51
S	Read 3rd time	06/02/09	51
S	On 3rd reading	06/02/09	
S	Committee amendments adopted (Voice vote)	06/02/09	50-51
S	Read 2nd time	06/02/09	50
S	Suspension of Constitutional Rule (Roll No. 7)	06/02/09	50
S	Reported do pass, with amendments	06/02/09	49
S	Having been read 1st time, prior proceedings, 6/2/09	06/02/09	49
S	On second reading to Finance	06/02/09	41
S	Read 1st time	06/02/09	41
S	On 1st reading	06/02/09	
S	Immediate consideration	06/02/09	41
S	Introduced in Senate	06/02/09	40
H	Communicated to Senate	06/02/09	31
H	Effective July 1, 2009 (Roll No. 540)	06/02/09	30
H	Title amendment adopted (Voice vote)	06/02/09	29
H	Passed House (Roll No. 539)	06/02/09	29
H	Read 3rd time	06/02/09	28
H	Amendment rejected (Voice vote)	06/02/09	28
H	Amendment rejected (Voice vote)	06/02/09	28
H	Committee amendment adopted (Voice vote)	06/02/09	27-28
H	Amendment reported by the Clerk	06/02/09	27
H	On 3rd reading with right to amend, House Calendar	06/02/09	
H	Read 2nd time	06/01/09	13
H	Immediate consideration	06/01/09	13
H	With amendment, do pass	06/01/09	13
H	Committed to Government Organization on 2nd reading	05/31/09	10
H	Read 1st time	05/31/09	10
H	Immediate consideration	05/31/09	10
H	Introduced in House	05/31/09	9
H	To Government Organization	05/31/09	
H	Filed for introduction	05/31/09	

Enrolled Version - Final Version

OTHER VERSIONS - [Introduced Version](#) |**ENROLLED****H. B. 103**

(By Mr. Speaker, (Mr. Thompson) and Delegate Armstead)

[By Request of the Executive]

[Passed June 2, 2009; in effect July 1, 2009.]

AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §24-2F-1, §24-2F-2, §24-2F-3, §24-2F-4, §24-2F-5, §24-2F-6, §24-2F-7, §24-2F-8, §24-2F-9, §24-2F-10, §24-2F-11 and §24-2F-12, all relating to an alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard; setting forth legislative findings; defining terms; establishing standards for the sale of electricity generated from alternative and renewable energy resources; providing for compliance assessments; creating a system of tradable alternative and renewable energy resource credits; providing for the awarding of credits based upon electricity generated or purchased from alternative and renewable energy resource facilities; providing for the awarding of credits for certain greenhouse emissions reduction and offset projects; providing for the awarding of credits for certain energy efficiency and demand-side energy initiative projects; requiring application to the Public Service Commission for approval of alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard compliance plans; setting forth minimum requirements for compliance plan applications; requiring Public Service Commission approval of compliance plan applications; requiring annual progress reports; providing for incentive rate making for investments in new alternative and renewable energy resource facilities in West Virginia; requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt certain net metering and interconnection rules and standards; authorizing interagency agreements; requiring an ongoing assessment of alternative and renewable energy resources in West Virginia; requiring Public Service Commission to consider adopting portfolio standards for certain electric cooperatives and other electric facilities or utilities; requiring Public Service Commission to consider extending alternative and renewable resource credits to electric distribution companies or electric generation suppliers other than electric utilities; establishing the Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources Research Fund; providing for the awarding of matching grants for certain research projects; and authorizing the Public Service Commission to promulgate rules.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated §24-2F-1, §24-2F-2, §24-2F-3, §24-2F-4, §24-2F-5, §24-2F-6, §24-2F-7, §24-2F-8, §24-2F-9, §24-2F-10, §24-2F-11 and §24-2F-12, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2F. ALTERNATIVE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD.**§24-2F-1. Short title.**

This article may be known and cited as the Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Act.

§24-2F-2. Legislative findings.

The Legislature finds that:

- (1) West Virginia has served the nation for many years as a reliable source of electrical power;
- (2) The nation is on a rapid course of action to produce electrical power with an ever decreasing amount of emissions;
- (3) To continue lowering the emissions associated with electrical production, and to expand the state's economic base, West Virginia should encourage the development of more efficient, lower-emitting and reasonably priced alternative and renewable energy resources;
- (4) The development of a robust and diverse portfolio of electric-generating capacity is needed for West Virginia to continue its success in attracting new businesses and jobs. This portfolio must include the use of alternative and renewable energy resources at new and existing facilities;
- (5) West Virginia has considerable natural resources that could support the development of alternative and renewable energy resource facilities at a reasonable price;
- (6) Alternative and renewable energy resources can be utilized now to meet state and federal environmental standards,

including those reasonably anticipated to be mandated in the future; and

(7) It is in the public interest for the state to encourage the construction of alternative and renewable energy resource facilities that increase the capacity to provide for current and anticipated electric energy demand at a reasonable price.

§24-2F-3. Definitions.

Unless the context clearly requires a different meaning, as used in this article:

- (1) "Advanced coal technology" means a technology that is used in a new or existing energy generating facility to reduce airborne carbon emissions associated with the combustion or use of coal and includes, but is not limited to, carbon dioxide capture and sequestration technology, supercritical technology, ultrasupercritical technology and pressurized fluidized bed technology.
- (2) "Alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard" or "portfolio standard" means a requirement in any given year that requires an electric utility to own credits in an amount equal to a certain percentage of electric energy sold in the preceding calendar year by the electric utility to retail customers in this state.
- (3) "Alternative energy resources" means any of the following resources, methods or technologies for the production or generation of electricity:
 - (A) Advanced coal technology;
 - (B) Coal bed methane;
 - (C) Natural gas;
 - (D) Fuel produced by a coal gasification or liquefaction facility;
 - (E) Synthetic gas;
 - (F) Integrated gasification combined cycle technologies;
 - (G) Waste coal;
 - (H) Tire-derived fuel;
 - (I) Pumped storage hydroelectric projects;
 - (J) Recycled energy, which means useful thermal, mechanical or electrical energy produced from: (i) Exhaust heat from any commercial or industrial process; (ii) waste gas, waste fuel or other forms of energy that would otherwise be flared, incinerated, disposed of or vented; and (iii) electricity or equivalent mechanical energy extracted from a pressure drop in any gas, excluding any pressure drop to a condenser that subsequently vents the resulting heat; and
 - (K) Any other resource, method, project or technology certified as an alternative energy resource by the Public Service Commission.
- (4) "Alternative and renewable energy resource credit" or "credit" means a tradable instrument that is used to establish, verify and monitor the generation of electricity from alternative and renewable energy resource facilities, energy efficiency or demand-side energy initiative projects or greenhouse gas emission reduction or offset projects.
- (5) "Alternative energy resource facility" means a facility or equipment that generates electricity from alternative energy resources.
- (6) "Commission" or "Public Service Commission" means the Public Service Commission of West Virginia as continued pursuant to section three, article one of this chapter.
- (7) "Customer-generator" means an electric retail customer who owns and operates a customer-sited generation project utilizing an alternative or renewable energy resource or a net metering system in this state.
- (8) "Electric utility" means any electric distribution company or electric generation supplier that sells electricity to retail customers in this state. Unless specifically provided for otherwise, for the purposes of this article, the term "electric utility" may not include rural electric cooperatives, municipally- owned electric facilities or utilities serving less than thirty thousand residential electric customers in West Virginia.
- (9) "Energy efficiency or demand-side energy initiative project" means a project in this state that promotes customer energy efficiency or the management of customer consumption of electricity through the implementation of:
 - (A) Energy efficiency technologies, equipment, management practices or other strategies utilized by residential, commercial, industrial, institutional or government customers that reduce electricity consumption by those customers;
 - (B) Load management or demand response technologies, equipment, management practices, interruptible or curtailable tariffs, energy storage devices or other strategies in residential, commercial, industrial, institutional and government customers that shift electric load from periods of higher demand to periods of lower demand;
 - (C) Industrial by-product technologies consisting of the use of a by-product from an industrial process, including, but not limited to, the reuse of energy from exhaust gases or other manufacturing by-products that can be used in the direct production of electricity at the customer's facility;
 - (D) Customer-sited generation, demand-response, energy efficiency or peak demand reduction capabilities, whether new or existing, that the customer commits for integration into the electric utility's demand-response, energy efficiency or peak demand reduction programs; or
 - (E) Infrastructure and modernization projects that help promote energy efficiency, reduce energy losses or shift load from periods of higher demand to periods of lower demand, including the modernization of metering and communications (also known as "smart grid"), distribution automation, energy storage, distributed energy resources and investments to promote the electrification of transportation.
- (10) "Greenhouse gas emission reduction or offset project" means a project to reduce or offset greenhouse gas emissions from sources in this state other than the electric utility's own generating and energy delivery operations. Greenhouse gas emission reduction or offset projects include, but are not limited to:
 - (A) Methane capture and destruction from landfills, coal mines or farms;
 - (B) Forestation, afforestation or reforestation; and
 - (C) Nitrous oxide or carbon dioxide sequestration through reduced fertilizer use or no-till farming.

- (11) "Net metering" means measuring the difference between electricity supplied by an electric utility and electricity generated from an alternative or renewable energy resource facility owned or operated by an electric retail customer when any portion of the electricity generated from the alternative or renewable energy resource facility is used to offset part or all of the electric retail customer's requirements for electricity.
- (12) "Reclaimed surface mine" means a surface mine, as that term is defined in section three, article three, chapter twenty-two of this code, that is reclaimed or is being reclaimed in accordance with state or federal law.
- (13) "Renewable energy resource" means any of the following resources, methods, projects or technologies for the production or generation of electricity:
- (A) Solar photovoltaic or other solar electric energy;
 - (B) Solar thermal energy;
 - (C) Wind power;
 - (D) Run of river hydropower;
 - (E) Geothermal energy, which means a technology by which electricity is produced by extracting hot water or steam from geothermal reserves in the earth's crust to power steam turbines that drive generators to produce electricity;
 - (F) Biomass energy, which means a technology by which electricity is produced from a nonhazardous organic material that is available on a renewable or recurring basis, including pulp mill sludge;
 - (G) Biologically derived fuel including methane gas, ethanol not produced from corn, or biodiesel fuel;
 - (H) Fuel cell technology, which means any electrochemical device that converts chemical energy in a hydrogen-rich fuel directly into electricity, heat and water without combustion; and
 - (I) Any other resource, method, project or technology certified by the commission as a renewable energy resource.
- (14) "Renewable energy resource facility" means a facility or equipment that generates electricity from renewable energy resources.
- (15) "Waste coal" means a technology by which electricity is produced by the combustion of the by-product, waste or residue created from processing coal (such as gob).

§24-2F-4. Awarding of alternative and renewable energy resource credits.

(a) *Credits established.* -- The Public Service Commission shall establish a system of tradable credits to establish, verify and monitor the generation and sale of electricity generated from alternative and renewable energy resource facilities. The credits may be traded, sold or used to meet the portfolio standards established in section five of this article.

(b) *Awarding of credits.* -- Credits shall be awarded as follows:

- (1) An electric utility shall be awarded one credit for each megawatt hour of electricity generated or purchased from an alternative energy resource facility located within the geographical boundaries of this state or located outside of the geographical boundaries of this state but within the service territory of a regional transmission organization, as that term is defined in 18 C.F.R. §35.34, that manages the transmission system in any part of this state;
- (2) An electric utility shall be awarded two credits for each megawatt hour of electricity generated or purchased from a renewable energy resource facility located within the geographical boundaries of this state or located outside of the geographical boundaries of this state but within the service territory of a regional transmission organization, as that term is defined in 18 C.F.R. §35.34, that manages the transmission system in any part of this state;
- (3) An electric utility shall be awarded three credits for each megawatt hour of electricity generated or purchased from a renewable energy resource facility located within the geographical boundaries of this state if the renewable energy resource facility is sited upon a reclaimed surface mine; and
- (4) A customer-generator shall be awarded one credit for each megawatt hour of electricity generated from an alternative energy resource facility and shall be awarded two credits for each megawatt hour of electricity generated from a renewable energy resource facility.

(c) *Acquiring of credits permitted.* --

- (1) An electric utility may meet the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standards set forth in this article by purchasing additional credits. Credits may be bought or sold by an electric utility or customer-generator or banked and used to meet an alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard requirement in a subsequent year.
- (2) Each credit transaction shall be reported by the selling entity to the Public Service Commission on a form provided by the commission.
- (3) As soon as reasonably possible after the effective date of this section, the commission shall establish a registry of data that shall track credit transactions and shall list the following information for each transaction: (i) The parties to the transaction; (ii) the number of credits sold or transferred; and (iii) the price paid. Information contained in the registry shall be available to the public.
- (4) The commission may impose an administrative transaction fee on a credit transaction in an amount not to exceed the actual direct cost of processing the transaction by the commission.

(d) *Credits for certain emission reduction or offset projects.* --

- (1) The commission may award credits to an electric utility for greenhouse gas emission reduction or offset projects. For each ton of carbon dioxide equivalent reduced or offset as a result of an approved greenhouse gas emission reduction project, the commission shall award an electric utility one credit: *Provided*, That the emissions reductions and offsets are verifiable and certified in accordance with rules promulgated by the commission: *Provided, however*, That the commission has previously approved the greenhouse gas emission reduction and offset project for credit in accordance with section six of this article.
- (2) The commission shall consult and coordinate with the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection to verify

and certify greenhouse gas emission reduction or offset projects. The Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection shall provide assistance and information to the Public Service Commission and may enter into interagency agreements with the commission to effectuate the purposes of this subsection.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, an electric utility may not be awarded credits for a greenhouse gas emission reduction or offset project undertaken pursuant to any obligation under any other state law, policy or regulation.

(e) *Credits for certain energy efficiency and demand-side energy initiative projects.* --

(1) The commission may award credits to an electric utility for investments in energy efficiency and demand-side energy initiative projects. For each megawatt hour of electricity conserved as a result of an approved energy efficiency or demand-side energy initiative project, the commission shall award one credit: *Provided*, That the amount of electricity claimed to be conserved is verifiable and certified in accordance with rules promulgated by the commission: *Provided, however*, That the commission has approved the energy efficiency or demand-side energy initiative project for credit in accordance with section six of this article.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, an electric utility may not be awarded credit for an energy efficiency or demand-side energy initiative project undertaken pursuant to any obligation under any other state or federal law, policy or regulation.

§24-2F-5. Alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard; compliance assessments.

(a) *General rule.* -- Each electric utility doing business in this state shall be required to meet the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standards set forth in this section. In order to meet these standards, an electric utility each year shall own an amount of credits equal to a certain percentage of electricity, as set forth in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, sold by the electric utility in the preceding year to retail customers in West Virginia.

(b) *Counting of credits towards compliance.* -- For the purpose of determining an electric utility's compliance with the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standards set forth in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, each credit shall equal one megawatt hour of electricity sold by an electric utility in the preceding year to retail customers in West Virginia. Furthermore, a credit may not be used more than once to meet the requirements of this section. No more than ten percent of the credits used each year to meet the compliance requirements of this section may be credits acquired from the generation or purchase of electricity generated from natural gas.

(c) *Twenty-five percent by 2025.* -- On and after January 1, 2025, an electric utility shall each year own credits in an amount equal to at least twenty-five percent of the electric energy sold by the electric utility to retail customers in this state in the preceding calendar year.

(d) *Interim portfolio standards.* --

(1) For the period beginning January 1, 2015, and ending December 31, 2019, an electric utility shall each year own credits in an amount equal to at least ten percent of the electric energy sold by the electric utility to retail customers in this state in the preceding calendar year; and

(2) For the period beginning January 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2024, an electric utility shall each year own credits in an amount equal to at least fifteen percent of the electric energy sold by the electric utility to retail customers in this state in the preceding calendar year.

(e) *Double-counting of credits prohibited.* -- Any portion of electricity generated from an alternative or renewable energy resource facility that is used to meet another state's alternative energy, advanced energy, renewable energy or similar energy portfolio standard may not be used to meet the requirements of this section. An electric utility that is subject to an alternative energy, advanced energy, renewable energy or similar energy portfolio standard in any other state shall list, in the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard compliance plan required under section six of this article, any such requirements and shall indicate how it satisfied those requirements. The electric utility shall provide in the annual progress report required under section six of this article any additional information required by the commission to prevent double-counting of credits.

(f) *Carryover.* -- An electric utility may apply any credits that are in excess of the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard in any given year to the requirements for any future year portfolio standard: *Provided*, That the electric utility determines to the satisfaction of the commission that such credits were in excess of the portfolio standard in a given year and that such credits have not previously been used for compliance with a portfolio standard.

(g) *Compliance assessments.* --

(1) On or after January 1, 2015, and each year thereafter, the commission shall determine whether each electric utility doing business in this state is in compliance with this section. If, after notice and a hearing, the commission determines that an electric utility has failed to comply with an alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard, the commission shall impose a compliance assessment on the electric utility which shall equal at least the lesser of the following:

(A) Fifty dollars multiplied by the number of additional credits that would be needed to meet an alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard in a given year; or

(B) Two hundred percent of the average market value of credits sold in a given year multiplied by the number of additional credits needed to meet the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard for that year.

(2) Compliance assessments collected by the commission pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources Research Fund established in section eleven of this article.

(h) *Force majeure.* --

(1) Upon its own initiative or upon the request of an electric utility, the commission may modify the portfolio standard requirements of an electric utility in a given year or years or recommend to the Legislature that the portfolio standard requirements be eliminated if the commission determines that alternative or renewable energy resources are not reasonably

available in the marketplace in sufficient quantities for the electric utility to meet the requirements of this article.

(2) In making its determination, the commission shall consider whether the electric utility made good faith efforts to acquire sufficient credits to comply with the requirements of this article. Such good faith efforts shall include, but are not limited to, banking excess credits, seeking credits through competitive solicitations and seeking to acquire credits through long-term contracts. The commission shall assess the availability of credits on the open market. The commission may also require that the electric utility solicit credits before a request for modification may be granted.

(3) If an electric utility requests a modification of its portfolio standard requirements, the commission shall make a determination as to the request within sixty days.

(4) Commission modification of an electric utility's portfolio standard requirements shall apply only to the portfolio standard in the year or years modified by the commission. Commission modification may not automatically reduce an electric utility's alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard requirements in future years.

(5) If the commission modifies an electric utility's portfolio standard requirements, the commission may also require the electric utility to acquire additional credits in subsequent years equivalent to the requirements reduced by the commission in accordance with this subsection.

(i) Termination - The provisions of this section shall have no force and effect after June 30, 2026.

§24-2F-6. Alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard compliance plan; application; approval; and progress report.

(a) On or before January 1, 2011, each electric utility subject to the provisions of this article shall prepare an alternative and renewable energy portfolio standard compliance plan and shall file an application with the commission seeking approval of such plan.

(b) A portfolio standard compliance plan shall include:

(1) Statistics and information concerning the electric utility's sales to retail customers in West Virginia during the preceding ten calendar years;

(2) A calculation of the electric utility's projected yearly sales to retail customers for the years 2011-2025;

(3) A calculation of the expected number of credits required to meet the portfolio standards set forth in this article;

(4) An anticipated time line for the development, purchase or procurement of credits sufficient to meet the portfolio standards set forth in this article;

(5) A nonbinding estimate of the costs to comply with the portfolio standards set forth in this article;

(6) A description of any greenhouse gas emission reduction or offset projects or energy efficiency and demand-side energy initiative projects the electric utility proposes to undertake for credit in accordance with this article;

(7) A list of any requirements and a description of how the electric utility satisfied or will satisfy those requirements if an electric utility is subject to an alternative energy, advanced energy, renewable energy or similar energy portfolio standard in any other state; and

(8) Such further information as required by the commission.

(c) Upon the filing of an application for approval of a portfolio standard compliance plan, and after hearing and proper notice, the commission may, in its discretion, approve or disapprove, or approve in part or disapprove in part, the application:

Provided, That the commission, after giving proper notice and receiving no protest within thirty days after the notice is given, may waive formal hearing on the application. Notice shall be published as a Class I legal advertisement in compliance with the provisions of article three, chapter fifty-nine of this code, and shall be given in a manner and in such form as may be prescribed by the commission.

(d) The commission shall, following proper notice and hearing, if any, render a final decision on any application filed pursuant to this section within two hundred seventy days of the filing of the application.

(e) If, and to the extent, the commission determines that a portfolio standard compliance plan has a reasonable expectation of achieving the portfolio standard requirements at a reasonable cost to electric customers in this state, the commission shall approve the plan. In establishing that the requisite standard for approval of a portfolio standard compliance plan is met, the burden of proof shall be upon the applicant.

(f) In the event the commission disapproves of an application filed pursuant to this section, in whole or in part, the commission shall specify its reason or reasons for disapproval. Any portion of the application not approved by the commission shall be modified and resubmitted by the applicant.

(g) Either upon an application of the electric utility, a petition by a party or the commission's own motion, a compliance plan proceeding may be reopened for the purpose of considering and making, if appropriate, alterations to the plan.

(h) Approval of the compliance plan does not eliminate the need for an electric utility to otherwise obtain required approvals, including, but not limited to, certificates to construct, consent to enter into affiliated contracts and recovery of compliance costs. Furthermore, nothing in this article shall be interpreted to alter or amend the existing power and authority of the commission.

(i) Approval of the compliance plan does not relieve an electric utility from its obligation to pay a compliance assessment pursuant to the provisions of section five of this article if it fails to comply with the portfolio standards set forth therein.

(j) Within a year of the commission's approval of an electric utility's compliance plan, and every year thereafter, the electric utility shall submit to the commission an annual progress report. The progress report shall include the electric utility's sales to retail customers in West Virginia during the previous calendar year; the amount of energy the electric utility has generated, purchased or procured from alternative or renewable energy resources; a comparison of the budgeted and actual costs as compared to the estimated cost of the portfolio standard compliance plan; any information required by the commission to prevent the double-counting of credits; and any further information required by the commission.

(k) The commission shall impose a special assessment on all electric utilities required to file a compliance plan. The assessments shall be prorated among the covered electric utilities on the basis of kilowatt hours of retail sales in West Virginia and shall be due and payable on September 1 of each year. The amount of revenue collected pursuant to this subsection may not exceed \$200,000 in the first year following the effective date of this article and may not exceed \$100,000 in successive years. The funds generated from the assessments shall be used exclusively to offset all reasonable direct and indirect costs incurred by the commission in administering the provisions of this article.

§24-2F-7. Cost recovery and rate incentives for electric utility investment in alternative and renewable energy resources.

(a) An electric utility shall have the right to recover the costs of complying with the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standards set forth in this article in a manner prescribed by the commission. Although the commission may approve costs that exceed the costs of current utility generation or purchased power, the electric utility has the burden to demonstrate that the costs are reasonable and represent the least cost of compliance. Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, an electric utility may not recover in rates the costs of compliance assessments imposed under this article.

(b) Upon a finding that it is in the public interest of this state, as provided in section one, article one of this chapter, the commission may authorize incentive rate-making allowances for electric utility investment in the construction of new alternative or renewable energy resource facilities in West Virginia to encourage investments in the use and development of alternative or renewable energy resource facilities.

(c) The commission shall determine, at such time and in such proceeding, form and manner as is considered appropriate by the commission, the extent to which any electric utility investment qualifies for the incentive rate making pursuant to this section.

§24-2F-8. Net metering and interconnection standards.

(a) The commission shall adopt a rule requiring that all electric utilities provide a rebate or discount at fair value, to be determined by the commission, to customer-generators for any electricity generation that is delivered to the utility under a net metering arrangement.

(b) The commission shall also consider adopting, by rule, a requirement that all sellers of electricity to retail customers in the state, including rural electric cooperatives, municipally owned electric facilities or utilities serving less than thirty thousand residential electric customers in this state, offer net metering rebates or discounts to customer-generators.

(c) The commission shall institute a general investigation for the purpose of adopting rules pertaining to net metering and the interconnection of eligible electric generating facilities intended to operate in parallel with an electric utility's system. As part of its investigation, the commission shall take into consideration rules of other states within the applicable region of the regional transmission organization, as that term is defined in 18 C.F.R. §35.34, that manages a utility's transmission system in any part of this state. Furthermore, the commission shall consider increasing the allowed kilowatt capacity for commercial customer-generators to an amount not to exceed five hundred kilowatts and for industrial customer-generators to an amount not to exceed two megawatts. The commission shall further consider interconnection standards for combined heat and power.

(d) The commission shall promulgate these rules within twelve months of the effective date of this article.

§24-2F-9. Interagency agreements; alternative and renewable energy resource planning assessment.

(a) *Interagency agreements.* -- The commission may enter into interagency agreements with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Division of Energy to carry out the responsibilities set forth in this article.

(b) *Alternative and renewable energy resource planning assessment.* -- The commission, in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Division of Energy, shall conduct an ongoing alternative and renewable energy resource planning assessment for this state that shall, at a minimum: (i) identify current and operating alternative and renewable energy resource facilities in this state; (ii) assess the potential to add future generating capacity in this state from alternative and renewable energy resource facilities; (iii) assess the conditions of the alternative and renewable energy resource marketplace, including costs associated with alternative and renewable energy; (iv) recommend methods to maintain or increase the relative competitiveness of the alternative and renewable energy resource market in this state; and (v) recommend to the Legislature additional compliance goals for alternative and renewable energy portfolio standards beyond 2025.

The commission shall report the initial results of its assessment to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates within three years of the effective date of this article and shall report the ongoing results of the assessment on a yearly basis thereafter, except that on or before January 1, 2012, the commission, in collaboration with the Public Energy Authority, shall report the initial results of its assessment to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.

§24-2F-10. Portfolio requirements for rural electric cooperatives, municipally owned electric facilities or utilities serving less than thirty thousand residential electric customers in West Virginia; and alternative and renewable energy resource credits for nonutility generators.

(a) The commission shall consider adopting, by rule, alternative and renewable energy portfolio requirements for rural

electric cooperatives, municipally owned electric facilities or utilities serving less than thirty thousand residential electric customers in this state. The commission shall institute a general investigation for the purpose of adopting such requirements.

(b) The commission shall consider extending, by rule, the awarding of alternative and renewable energy resource credits in accordance with the provisions of section four of this article to electric distribution companies or electric generation suppliers other than electric utilities. As part of its investigation, the commission shall examine any modifications to the statutory and regulatory structure necessary to permit the participation of such non-utility generators in the system of tradable credits authorized by this article. If the commission determines that statutory modifications to this article or other provisions of this code are necessary to permit such participation, the commission shall notify the Governor and the Legislature of the findings of its investigation and proposed legislation necessary to effectuate its recommendations.

§24-2F-11. Alternative and renewable energy resources grant program.

(a) There is hereby established in the State Treasury a special revolving fund to be jointly administered by the Public Service Commission and the Division of Energy which shall be designated the "Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources Research Fund." Moneys in the fund shall be used to award matching grants for demonstration, commercialization, research and development projects relating to alternative and renewable energy resources and energy efficiency technologies.

(b) The fund shall consist of any moneys appropriated by the Legislature, any compliance assessments collected by the commission, any gifts, bequests or other contributions to the fund from private entities or electric customers and any interest or other return on the moneys in the fund. Any moneys remaining in the account at the end of a fiscal year, including accrued interest, do not revert to the General Revenue Fund and remain in the account.

(c) Any donations to the fund collected by an electric generation supplier or electric distribution company shall be forwarded to the Public Service Commission and the commission shall deposit such moneys in the fund.

(d) The Division of Energy shall provide for the distribution of moneys from the fund in the form of matching grants to state institutions of higher education for demonstration, commercialization, research and development projects relating to alternative and renewable energy resources and energy efficiency technologies. The Division of Energy shall consult with and receive recommendations from the Public Energy Authority, the Economic Development Authority and the Department of Environmental Protection to establish eligibility criteria for the awarding of grant moneys under this section. The Division of Energy may update said criteria as necessary to comply with the requirements of this section.

(e) Within two years of the effective date of this section, and each year thereafter, the Division of Energy shall file a report with the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates containing, at a minimum: (i) A description of all actions taken by the Division of Energy pursuant to this section; (ii) an accounting of total deposits into and expenditures from the fund during the previous twelve months; and (iii) a description of any projects that received a distribution from the fund during the preceding twelve months, including the projects' objectives, current status and results, if any.

§24-2F-12. Rule-making authority.

The commission shall promulgate rules in accordance with section seven, article one, chapter twenty-four of this code to effectuate the purposes of this article.

Ordered, That The Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate.

Senator Helmick, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Finance has had under consideration

Eng. House Bill No. 103, Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Act.

And has amended same.

Now on second reading, having been read a first time and referred to the Committee on Finance in prior proceedings today;

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass, as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

Walt Helmick,

Chair.

At the request of Senator Chafin, unanimous consent being granted, the bill (Eng. H. B. No. 103) contained in the preceding report from the Committee on Finance was taken up for immediate consideration.

On motion of Senator Chafin, the constitutional rule requiring a bill to be read on three separate days was suspended by a vote of four fifths of the members present, taken by yeas and nays.

On suspending the constitutional rule, the yeas were: Barnes, Bowman, Browning, Caruth, Chafin, Deem, Edgell, D. Facemire, K. Facemyer, Fanning, Foster, Green, Gulls, Hall, Helmick, Jenkins, Kessler, Laird, McCabe, Minard, Oliverio, Palumbo, Plymale, Prezioso, Snyder, Stollings, Sypolt, Unger, Wells, Williams, Yost and Tomblin (Mr. President)—32.

The nays were: None.

Plymale, Prezioso, Snyder, Stollings, Sypolt, Unger, Wells, Williams, Yost and Tomblin (Mr. President)—32.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Boley and White—2.

The bill was read a second time and ordered to third reading. Having been engrossed, the bill (Eng. H. B. No. 105) was then read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Bowman, Browning, Caruth, Chafin, Deem, Edgell, D. Facemire, K. Facemyer, Fanning, Foster, Green, Gulls, Helmick, Jenkins, Kessler, Laird, McCabe, Minard, Oliverio, Palumbo, Plymale, Prezioso, Snyder, Stollings, Sypolt, Unger, Wells, Williams, Yost and Tomblin (Mr. President)—30.

The nays were: Barnes and Hall—2.

Absent: Boley and White—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. H. B. No. 105) passed with its title.

Senator Chafin moved that the bill take effect from passage.

On this question, the yeas were: Bowman, Browning, Caruth, Chafin, Deem, Edgell, D. Facemire, K. Facemyer, Fanning, Foster, Green, Gulls, Helmick, Jenkins, Kessler, Laird, McCabe, Minard, Oliverio, Palumbo, Plymale, Prezioso, Snyder, Stollings, Sypolt, Unger, Wells, Williams, Yost and Tomblin (Mr. President)—30.

The nays were: Barnes and Hall—2.

Absent: Boley and White—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. H. B. No. 105) takes effect from passage.

Minard, Oliverio, Palumbo, Plymale, Prezioso, Snyder, Stollings, Unger, Wells, Williams, Yost and Tomblin (Mr. President)—28.

The nays were: Caruth, Deem, Hall and Sypolt—4.

Absent: Boley and White—2.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. H. B. No. 103) passed with its title.

Senator Chafin moved that the bill take effect July 1, 2009.

On this question, the yeas were: Barnes, Bowman, Browning, Chafin, Edgell, D. Facemire, K. Facemyer, Fanning, Foster, Green, Gulls, Helmick, Jenkins, Kessler, Laird, McCabe, Minard, Oliverio, Palumbo, Plymale, Prezioso, Snyder, Stollings, Unger, Wells, Williams, Yost and Tomblin (Mr. President)—28.

The nays were: Caruth, Deem, Hall and Sypolt—4.

Absent: Boley and White—2.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. H. B. No. 103) takes effect July 1, 2009.

Ordered, That The Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

Senator Helmick, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Finance has had under consideration

Eng. House Bill No. 104, Relating to Motor Fuel Excise Tax Shortfall Reserve Fund.

Now on second reading, having been read a first time and referred to the Committee on Finance in prior proceedings today;

Absent: Boley and White—2.

The bill was read a second time.

The following amendments to the bill, from the Committee on Finance, were reported by the Clerk, considered simultaneously, and adopted:

On page five, section three, line nineteen, after the word "heat;" by inserting the word "and";

On page five, section three, line twenty, by striking out the following:

"(K) Pulp mill sludge; and";

And relettering the remaining paragraph;

On page nine, section three, line sixteen, after the word "basis" by inserting a comma and the words "including pulp mill sludge";

On page fourteen, section five, line twenty-four, after the word "section," by inserting the following: No more than ten percent of the credits used each year to meet the compliance requirements of this section may be credits acquired from the generation or purchase of electricity generated from natural gas;

And,

On page eighteen, section five, subsection (i), by striking out "2021" and inserting in lieu thereof "2026".

The bill, as amended, was ordered to third reading.

Having been engrossed, the bill (Eng. H. B. No. 103) was then read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Barnes, Bowman, Browning, Chafin, Edgell, D. Facemire, K. Facemyer, Fanning, Foster, Green, Gulls, Helmick, Jenkins, Kessler, Laird, McCabe,



WRAP-UP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

For information about
your State Legislature,
visit our Web site:
www.legis.state.wv.us

Volume XX, Final Issue - Addendum | June 11, 2009

Lawmakers extended the Regular Session until May 26th to better address the state budget and to rework some vetoed legislation. Legislators corrected 17 bills that were vetoed for technical problems – title errors or other deficiencies not related to the substances of the measures – then repassed these bills to meet the objections of the Governor. The Regular Session adjourned Sine Die on May 31, 2009.

WEST VIRGINIA BUDGET BILL – Fiscal Year 2010 Committee Substitute for House Bill 2010

Overall Highlights

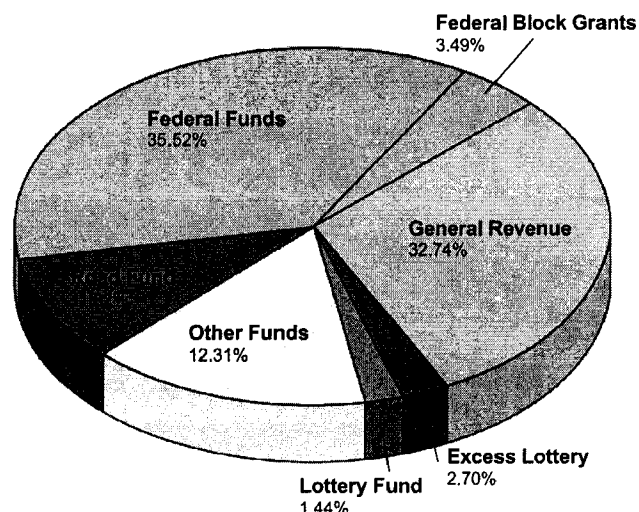
The Governor's introduced version of the budget bill as presented in February contained a total General Revenue appropriation of \$3,971,794,588 with all accounts being fully funded.

Mid session, revised revenue estimates led to a reduction of total General Revenue available for appropriation by \$197,493,639, leaving the total General Revenue available for appropriation at \$3,788,000,000.

Expenditure reductions were across the board and ranged from 2% to 10% and included:

1. The elimination of the OPEB (Other Post Employee Benefits) as contained in the original proposed bill. This elimination freed \$51 million.
2. The reduction of the Medicaid appropriation from the original proposed bill. This reduction freed up \$47 million and will be backfilled with enhanced FMAP funding, resulting in no reduction.
3. The Governor's Civil Contingency Fund appropriation was eliminated. The Legislature's Traffic account and the appropriation for the Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP) were eliminated, resulting in an additional \$38 million in savings. These eliminated line items are currently considered one-time eliminations and will be reconsidered for restoration next budget cycle.

Total Budget, FY 2010



Total Budget Breakdown

General Revenue	3,787,976,953
Road Fund	1,367,137,215
Special Revenue	1,424,170,416
Lottery	166,010,000
Excess Lottery	312,118,000
Federal Funds	4,108,936,130
Federal Block Grants	403,321,924
Total	\$11,569,670,638

Data provided by House of Delegates Committee on Finance

4. Public Education (available for Federal Stabilization Funding) was reduced by \$23 million and Higher Education was reduced by approximately \$11,000,000. This reduction will be immediately replaced with Federal Stabilization Funding. Federal Guidelines dictates that states must use their allocations to help restore for FY2009, 2010, and 2011 support for public education (school aid formula) and higher education to the greater of the FY2008 or FY2009 level.

This totaled \$167,000,000 in cuts. Only \$31,000,000 of ongoing cuts were left to be made to come up with the approximately \$198 million in reductions.

House Bill 103 creates the Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Act, which established a minimum alternative and renewable energy portfolio. By the year 2025, at least 25 percent of the electric energy sold to retail customers in this state is to be generated from alternative and renewable energy resources.

House Bill 104 continues the Motor Fuel Excise Tax Shortfall Reserve Fund although a specific date (June 30, 2013) has been set to terminate the fund.

House Bill 105 reclassifies retail liquor licenses. Liquor licenses run on a 10-year cycle and are up for re-bidding. The measure allows standalone stores to opt out of competitive bidding and would allow them to pay the minimum bid plus 10 percent. The bill also allows retailers to pay half of the cost of their license renewal up front and the remainder over 5 years.

House Bill 109 establishes zones of educational innovation that will allow school employees to collaboratively devise and implement 21st Century school improvement strategies that are currently restrained and/or restricted by policies issued by the state board or the West Virginia Code.

House Bill 113 reissues revenue bonds for tourism and education and provides a procedure for selecting projects that are to receive moneys from the bonds.

Senate Bill 1001 helps struggling third- and fourth-grade students get back up to par with their peers through a summer instruction program. The additional in-school, after-school or summer school instruction would cover deficiencies in reading, math, or language arts.

Senate Bill 1002 allows the development of pay rates and employment requirements to support the recruitment and retention of certain classified service positions at Mildred Mitchell-Bateman Hospital and William R. Sharpe Hospital. The Legislature found that the two mental health facilities have extreme difficulty in recruiting and retaining health care providers and other employees who assist in the direct service of medical care to patients.

Senate Bill 1003 establishes the High-Technology Business Property Valuation Act, making some high tech materials and tangible personal property exempt from the consumers sales and service tax and the use tax. In addition the bill calls for taxing

high-tech companies at their salvage value, which is five percent of actual value. The measure is designed to encourage high-tech companies to locate Internet "server farms" in the state.

Senate Bill 1006 revises dates for action with respect to hiring, termination, resignation or transfer of teachers and school personnel so that hiring determinations may be made earlier in the year to better allow county boards to recruit new teachers. It also allows county school boards to hire graduating college seniors, pending their obtaining a teacher's certificate. This change permits school boards to participate at job fairs.

Senate Bill 1009 provides a tax deduction for creation of trusts to support children with autism and also establishes the procedure of creating the funds.

Senate Bill 1010 allows a county commission to adopt an ordinance that limits the areas of the county in which a business may offer "exotic entertainment". However, changes in an ordinance prior to the passage of this bill may not affect an existing business.

Senate Bill 1011 expands the Office of Coalfield Community Development's authority to develop post-mining land use plans for mountaintop-removal sites. This would assure the participation of the office in working with local economic development authorities in developing post-mine sites.

Senate Bill 1014 provides \$26.5 million to assist flood victims throughout the state.

Senate Bill 1015 provides \$21 million to ease the backlog of past-due payments owed by the state's Public Defender Services. The program reimburses attorneys who are asked by judges to represent poor people in criminal and other cases.

Interim Committee Meetings 2009

*Dates subject
to change.*

June 15-17
July 14-16
August 10-12
September 14-16
October 13-16
November 17-19
December 7-9
January 10-12-2010

Charleston Gazette (West Virginia)

June 3, 2009, Wednesday

All 15 bills approved in special session;

Lawmakers finish business in three days

BYLINE: Alison Knezevich, Staff writer

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. P1A

LENGTH: 665 words

Gov. Joe Manchin will get a chance to sign all 15 of the bills he placed before the Legislature in this week's special session.

Lawmakers wrapped up the session Tuesday after three days, passing every item on the agenda. Those included a tax break for parents of children with autism; a plan to expand the Office of Coalfield Community Development's authority to develop post-mining land use plans for mountaintop-removal sites; and three of the governor's education initiatives that didn't make it through the regular legislative session.

Lawmakers also approved two supplemental appropriation bills: \$26 million from the Rainy Day Fund to help southern counties hit by recent floods, and \$21 million from lottery revenues to catch up on payments the state owes to court-appointed lawyers.

The Manchin administration had worked with legislative leaders to come up with an agenda most lawmakers would support.

They did "a lot of work" before the special session started, House Speaker Rick Thompson said.

"We pretty well looked at items we could do in an expedited fashion," said Thompson, D-Wayne.

During the regular session that ended in April, lawmakers had already taken up many of the bills they addressed this week - but differences between the House and Senate had stalled them.

"Sometimes it's just minor differences that keep the bills from passing," Thompson said.

Still, a few items generated debate among lawmakers Tuesday.

One was Manchin's bill to favor stand-alone liquor stores in the liquor-license bidding process. It would let those stores opt out of competitive bidding. Instead, they would renew their licenses by paying the minimum bid plus 10 percent.

Proponents say the changes will protect local, independent liquor stores from being outbid by chains like Kroger and Rite Aid.

But Delegate Bill Wooton, D-Raleigh, called the plan "a sweetheart deal" for the state's 65 standalone stores. Delegate Barbara Fleischauer, D-Monongalia, criticized a section of the bill that will let liquor-store owners pay up to 50 percent of their licensing costs at low-interest rates.

Some lawmakers also balked at legislation that will increase racetrack counties' share of table-games revenues if all four "racinos" in the state offer such gaming - meant to sway Jefferson County voters to approve table games there.

House Minority Leader Tim Armstead, R-Kanawha, said the bill underscores the state's dependence on the gambling industry.

"We have no long-term ... economic development plan for the state of West Virginia that has been put forth by this administration," he said.

Legislators also approved Manchin's bill intended to spur power companies to rely on alternative and re-newable energy sources to provide 25 percent of all electricity generated by the year 2025.

Sen. Frank Deem, R-Wood, said efforts to reduce the nation's reliance on coal was part of an "Al Gore conspiracy" to convince the public that global warming is a real threat.

"There's no absolute truth that what they say is true," Deem said.

Education-related bills passed Tuesday are meant to help struggling third- and eighth-graders; better recruit teachers by changing hiring dates; and let counties establish "school innovation zones."

The Legislature also approved a measure to increase pay at the state's two psychiatric hospitals, and to let county commissions restrict locations for strip clubs and other "exotic entertainment" businesses.

They will take up at least two more supplemental appropriation bills before the new fiscal year begins in July, Thompson said: One for higher education and another to transfer \$40 million from the state Insurance Commission to the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

He predicted that health care and jobs-creation would be the big topics of the next regular session.

"We did the items that we could do" in the special session, he said. "Obviously, there's more to do."

Staff writer Phil Kabler contributed to this report. Reach Alison Knezevich at

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PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

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Republicans take aim at WV 'cap-and-trade' law.

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by Talkline host
Hoppy Kercheval

Hoppy's Commentary | December 12, 2014 at 12:06AM

The new Republican majority is not yet in place at the West Virginia Legislature and already there is a dispute between the GOP and Democratic U.S. Senator Joe Manchin.

Earlier this week, incoming House Speaker Tim Armstead said the first priority when the Legislature goes into session next month will be repealing an energy law pushed through by then-Governor Manchin and Democratic lawmakers in 2009.

The technical name of H.B. 103 is the Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard, but Republicans derisively call it a "cap-and-trade" law. The legislation is designed to lower emissions from coal-fired power plants by requiring utilities to generate increasing amounts of electricity using alternative fuels: 10 percent by next year, 15 percent by 2020 and 25 percent by 2025.

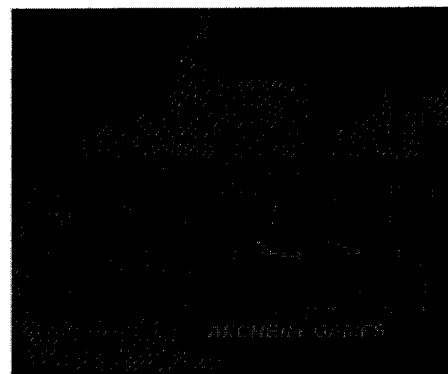
Utilities earn credits for generating electricity from alternative or renewable fuels and must maintain a certain number of credits to avoid fines. The law says "The credits may be traded, sold or used to meet the portfolio standards."

Armstead can't wait to relegate the law to the capitol shredder. "We think it not only has a devastating impact on our energy sector, our coal jobs in the state, but also it will result in increased utility rates for our citizens," Armstead told me on Talkline Monday.

Armstead is referring to a key section of the law—24-2F-7(a): "An electric utility shall have the right to recover the costs of complying with the alternative and renewable energy portfolio standards." In other words, Armstead reasons, if utilities have to spend more on increasing amounts of alternative fuels, the customer gets stuck with the bill.

Manchin was reportedly livid when he heard about the Republican plan, and he vented on Talkline Thursday. "They have the mantle now and they can set the agenda and probably do whatever suits them best. I understand that, but to call it a cap-and-trade (law)? They know that's disingenuous and I'm just saying we don't need that political rhetoric here, especially when it's inaccurate."

Manchin says he famously highlighted his opposition to an actual cap-and-trade proposal during a 2010 campaign ad when he fired a bullet through a copy of the federal bill.



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IS STRUGGLING



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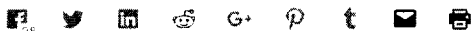
The Senator says his goal in pushing the bill through the state legislature five years ago was to encourage the development of more efficient and less polluting alternatives, including carbon-based sources such as coal gasification and liquefaction.

There are two differences, however, between 2009 and now.

First, the coal industry has taken a severe hit because of market conditions and EPA regulations. Any plan that even sounds like cap-and-trade is going to be toxic. And second, Democrats who supported the original bill no longer have a majority.

In the end, the most important number in this debate will not be the percentage of alternative fuels required, but rather the legislative head count. Armstead may not fire a high-powered rifle at a copy of H.B. 103, but it's clearly in his sights.

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Hoppy Kercheval

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The radio "dean" of West Virginia broadcasters, Hoppy Kercheval joined West Virginia Radio Corporation in 1976.

89 Comments

NORM

HOPPY DONT KNOW HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH JIM STALLINGS BUT WANT TO WISH HIM WELL NEXTWEEK LOTS OF US WILL BE THINKING OF HIM

December 12, 2014 at 1:14 pm |

Aaron

It seems to me that if the state was interested in reducing carbon emissions they would mandate public vehicles switch to CNG with all new vehicles purchased including public transportation and school buses.

December 12, 2014 at 11:27 am |

Shadow

Great idea, but don't hold your breath.

December 12, 2014 at 7:03 pm |

norm

MR HILL INORDER TO VOTE FAST JOEY OUT WE NEED TO GET THE HUNTERS OUT OF THE WOODS THEY LIKE TO KILL BAMBI

December 12, 2014 at 10:27 am |

thornton

Keep trying, norman....something may finally stick to the wall.

Caps off to all the bambi-swaters!

December 12, 2014 at 12:48 pm |

norm

THERE ARE WINDMILLS IN TUCKER COUNTY I WONDER WHY FAST EDDIE AND JOEY WERE UP IN TUCKER COUNTY A LOT OF TIMES THE LAST FEW YEARS AND BY THE WAY JOEY HAS A KNACK OF CLEANING THE FLOORS IN A BAR CALLED THE PURPLE KITTY IN TUCKER COUNTY HMMMMMMMMMMMM I WONDER HOPPY IF THAT

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