

HB 2063 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Carrier: Sen. Robinson

Action Date: 05/11/21
Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.
Vote: 5-0-0-0
Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Dembrow, Findley, Robinson, Taylor
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Beth Reiley, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 4/27, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes requirement that person seeking exemption from requirement to obtain site certificate for standby generation facility request exemption from Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC). Prohibits EFSC from requiring request for exemption for standby generation facility. Becomes operative January 1, 2022. Authorizes EFSC to take necessary action to implement Act prior to January 1, 2022. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Standby generators are typically used during a power outage
- Other agency permit requirements
- Cost savings for applicant
- Existing requirement is procedural only

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Large energy facilities builders in Oregon must apply for a site certificate from the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) before they can begin construction. The certificate or amended certificate authorizes the applicant to construct, operate, and retire the facility subject to the conditions set forth in the site certificate or amended site certificate. Site certificates or amended site certificates last for the duration of the life of the facility. Electric power generators that are not connected to the electricity grid and act as backup standby generators must secure permits for operations, including limits on operational hours to minimize air pollution emissions, from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and local governments, and those that are over 25 megawatts also need to apply for a site certificate or an exemption from EFSC.

House Bill 2063 A would prohibit EFSC from requiring a person who operates or proposes to construct or enlarge an energy facility to request an exemption for a standby generation facility.