

SB 969 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 2/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits the Energy Facility Siting Council from exercising jurisdiction over an energy facility that is a renewable energy facility or transmission line, is sited wholly within federal lands and is subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act. Requires the person seeking federal approval for the facility to meet certain requirements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was signed into law on January 1, 1970 and requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions. The range of actions covered by NEPA is broad and includes:

- making decisions on permit applications,
- adopting federal land management actions, and
- constructing highways and other publicly-owned facilities.