

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1455
(Representatives Nehring, Toman)
(Senator Bell)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 49-22-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to ten-year plans; and to provide for a legislative management study.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 49-22-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

49-22-04. Ten-year plans - Contents.

1. Each utility that owns or operates, or plans within the next ten years to own, operate, or start construction on any facility shall develop a ten-year plan as specified in this section and submit the plan to the commission. Each utility shall file an updated plan on or before July first of each even-numbered year after the year of its initial submission. The ten-year plan may be appropriate portions of a single regional plan or may be jointly prepared and submitted by two or more utilities and must contain the following information:
 4. a. A description of the general location, size, and type of all facilities to be owned or operated by the utility during the ensuing ten years, as well as those facilities to be removed from service during the ten-year period.
 2. b. An identification of the location of the tentative preferred site for all electric energy conversion facilities and the tentative location of all electric transmission facilities on which construction is intended to be commenced within the ensuing five years and such other information as may be required by the commission. The site and corridor identification shall be made in compliance with the criteria published by the commission pursuant to section 49-22-05.1.
 3. c. A description of the efforts by the utility to coordinate the plan with other utilities so as to provide a coordinated regional plan for meeting the utility needs of the region.
 4. d. A description of the efforts to involve environmental protection and land-use planning agencies in the planning process, as well as other efforts to identify and minimize environmental problems at the earliest possible stage in the planning process.
 5. e. A statement of the projected demand for the service rendered by the utility for the ensuing ten years and the underlying assumptions for the projection, with that information being as geographically specific as possible, and a description of the manner and extent to which the utility will meet the projected demands.
 6. f. Any other relevant information as may be requested by the commission. Upon receipt of the ten-year plans the commission shall proceed to assess the impact of the development proposed within the state to ensure that energy conversion facilities and transmission facilities will be sited in an orderly manner compatible with environmental preservation and efficient use of resources.
2. If not previously disclosed in a ten-year plan filing pursuant to subdivision a of subsection 1, the utility owner or operator of an electric energy conversion facility shall notify the commission and the auditor of the county in which the facility is located if the owner or operator considers removing an electric energy conversion facility from service. Upon notice of

the removal from service, the commission may request the owner or operator provide the commission with any applicable reliability study developed with a regional transmission organization in conjunction with the considered removal from service and may accept public comment in a format prescribed by the commission.

SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - COAL CONVERSION FACILITIES. During the 2021-22 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the need, cost, effect, and appropriate process for bonding and ensuring reclamation of coal conversion facilities. The study must include an examination and assessment of the methods and amounts of financial assurance and schedules, the interaction of economics and the statutes, rules, and policies relating to the remaining useful life and early retirement of coal conversion facilities, the role of the public service commission in all electrical generation retirement, and the appropriate involvement of the public and local communities and political subdivisions in the retirement process. The study also must evaluate the effectiveness of government programs and incentives relating to energy production, reliability, and the state's role in that process. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-eighth legislative assembly.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1455.

House Vote: Yeas 93 Nays 0 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2021,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State