

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3538 - A

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Requires certain energy facilities and any related or supporting facilities to meet greenhouse gas emissions standards.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Energy

Summary of Expenditure Impact: See Analysis

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

The measure requires certain energy facilities and any related facilities to meet certain greenhouse gas emission standards. The measure stipulates that the global warming potential of methane and nitrous oxide in relation to carbon dioxide. The requirement applies to all cite certificates or amended certificates approved by the Energy Facility Siting Council on or after January 1, 2012.

The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) anticipates that the associated workload for rule-changes required by the measure would be allocated to existing staff. ODOE states that the measure's stipulation of global warming potential will reduce the anticipated workload in 2011-13.

ODOE notes that national carbon dioxide factors will most likely be adjusted in the future, although the timing is indeterminate. If the national carbon dioxide factors are adjusted, the Department may need to develop by rule new standards for greenhouse gas emission levels in relation to carbon dioxide emissions. The anticipated workload from developing new standards is beyond the technical expertise of current budgeted staff and may require additional resources in the future.