

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Joint Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Bentz, Boone, Dembrow, Reardon, Vega Pederson, Weidner, Whitsett, Bailey
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Johnson
Prepared By:	Adam Crawford, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides conditions under which associated transmission lines are necessary for public service. Requires county governing body or designee approval in siting of associated transmission lines if specific conditions are met. Adds associated transmission lines to acceptable uses in exclusive farm use zoned areas.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Exclusive Farm Use zoned lands
- Renewable energy generation tie-lands
- Land Use Board of Appeals
- Contents of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: Renewable energy projects like wind or solar generation facilities can be placed in or near exclusive farm use (EFU) zoned areas. This placement causes a problem when seeking to connect those electrical generation facilities to the electrical grid by generation tie-lines, as EFU zoned areas have a narrower range of acceptable land uses. In land use terminology, a generational tie-line is termed an ‘associated line.’

House Bill 2704 A incents the placement of associated lines either in existing corridors or rights-of-way and provides conditions for the siting of associated lines on high-value farmland if there is no reasonable alternative site. House Bill 2704 A also requires the applicant requesting to site an associated line on high-value farmland to present findings on how the applicant will mitigate negative impacts to the farmland and farm practices.