

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, Committee Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 2/9, 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) to compensate tribes identified by Commission on Indian Services for expenses directly related to certain evaluation activities related to site certificates. Requires a person who submits notice of intent to file for site certificate, requests an exemption, or requests expedited review to pay Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council prior to submitting notice or request. Specifies certain expenses incurred by council to be paid by person submitting notice or request. Specifies certain direct costs incurred by council and Department of Energy to be recouped through annual fee paid by certificate holder. Authorizes council to periodically review documents, reports or other materials to ensure compliance with terms and conditions of site certificate, or request another agency or local government to do so and compensate them for their work.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: (Proposed -1 Amendment) Requires Energy Facility Siting Council (Council) to evaluate notice of intent or request for expedited review. Authorizes Council to compensate state agency or local government affected by expenses directly related to evaluation activities for consultation initiated by applicant for notice of intent or request for expedited review prior to submittal of notice request. Excludes legal expenses of agency or local government incurred as result of participation in contested case from compensation. Limits consultation expenses for notice of intent or request for expedited review prior to submittal of notice request to expenses established in estimate and agreed to by applicant. Authorizes Council to compensate tribe identified by Commission on Indian Services for expenses directly related to certain evaluation activities related to site certificates. Authorizes Council to commission independent study.

BACKGROUND: Oregon's Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) is a seven member board appointed by the Governor to review applications for site certificates for all state-jurisdiction energy facilities. The Department of Energy administers the EFSC process, which consolidates state and local government regulations into a single review process. Upon review of the application the council may issue a site certificate, which is a binding contract between the applicant and all political subdivisions. State agencies then issue permits with the Council's conditions.

3/27/2015 9:32:00 AM *

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.