

PROPOSED ENERGY POLICY DRAFT WITH LANGUAGE CHANGES

“An Act declaring a state energy policy.”

Section 1. As 44.99 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Section 44.99.115. Declaration of state energy policy. The State of Alaska recognizes that the state’s economic prosperity is dependent on available, reliable, and affordable residential, commercial and industrial energy to supply the state’s electric, heat and transportation needs. The state also recognizes that worldwide supply and demand for fossil fuels and concerns about global climate change will likely increase the price of fossil fuels consumed by Alaskans and exported from the state to other markets. The state also recognizes the immense diversity of the state’s geography, cultures, and resource availability in establishing this A ct. Therefore, it is the policy of the state to

- 1) Institute a comprehensive and coordinated approach to supporting energy efficiency and conservation by
 - A) Establishing statewide energy efficiency codes for new and renovated residential, commercial, and public buildings;
 - B) Decreasing public building energy consumption through conservation measures and energy-efficient technologies; and
 - C) Initiating and supporting a program to educate state residents on the benefits of energy efficiency and conservation, including dissemination of information on state and federal programs that offer incentives for energy efficiency;
- 2) Encourage economic development by
 - A) Promoting the development of renewable energy resources, including geothermal, wind, solar, hydroelectric, hydrokinetic, tidal, and biomass energy, for use by Alaskans and for export;
 - B) Promoting the development, transport, and efficient use of nonrenewable enrgy resources, including natural gas, coal, oil, gas hydrates, heavy oil, and nuclear energy, for use by Alaskans and for export;
 - C) Working to identify and assist with development of the most cost-effective, long-term sources of energy for each community statewide;
 - D) Creating and maintaining incentives that provide long-term certainty and encourage private sector development of the state’s energy resources;
- 3) Support energy research, education, and workforce development by

- A) Investing in training and education programs that address energy conservation, efficiency and availability, including programs addressing workforce development and workforce transition;
 - B) Investing in applied energy research and development of emerging technologies to achieve near-term reductions in energy costs and stimulate industry investment in the state;
- 4) Coordinate governmental functions by
- A) Reviewing and streamlining guiding regulatory processes and balancing the economic costs of review with the level of review necessary to protect the public interest;
 - B) Coordinating the state's energy-related functions through designated State Energy Office to avoid fragmenting and duplication, and to increase effectiveness;
 - C) Actively collaborating with federal agencies to achieve the state's energy goals and to meet national emission and renewable energy and production targets.