

One Hundred Fifth Legislature - Second Session - 2018

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB820

Chairperson: Senator Dan Hughes

Committee: Natural Resources

Date of Hearing: January 31, 2018

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 824, enacted in 2016, amended section 70-1014.02 to provide a certification process for privately developed renewable energy generation facilities. By providing certain certifications to the Power Review Board, private entities could be exempted from the need to go through the agency's hearing and approval process. Since enactment of the statute, there have been renewable facilities that were constructed or installed without submitting the required certifications at least 30 days prior to construction due to a lack of knowledge of the new requirement. Private entities that do not comply with the 30 day advance notice requirement are required to obtain approval from the Board using the more involved and costly hearing requirements, or obtain approval from the federal government.

This bill provides the Power Review Board with authority to impose a \$500 penalty for certifications that are submitted outside the 30 days prior to construction requirement, allowing entities to use the certification process by paying the penalty and submitting the certifications after construction has commenced or after the facility has already been constructed.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Dan Hughes