

CHAPTER 216C

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE; ENERGY DIVISION

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216C.051 LEGISLATIVE ELECTRIC ENERGY TASK FORCE.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1998]

Subd. 2. **Establishment.** (a) There is established a legislative electric energy task force to study future electric energy sources and costs and to make recommendations for legislation for an environmentally and economically sustainable and advantageous electric energy supply.

(b) The task force consists of:

(1) ten members of the house of representatives including the chairs of the environment and natural resources committee and regulated industries subcommittee and eight members to be appointed by the speaker of the house, four of whom must be from the minority caucus; and

(2) ten members of the senate including the chairs of the environment and natural resources and jobs, energy, and community development committees and eight members to be appointed by the subcommittee on committees, four of whom must be from the minority caucus.

(c) The task force may employ staff, contract for consulting services, and may reimburse the expenses of persons requested to assist it in its duties other than state employees or employees of electric utilities. The director of the legislative coordinating commission shall assist the task force in administrative matters. The task force shall elect cochair, one member of the house and one member of the senate from among the committee and subcommittee chairs named to the committee. The task force members from the house shall elect the house cochair, and the task force members from the senate shall elect the senate cochair.

[For text of subds 3 to 9, see M.S.1998]

History: 1999 c 19 s 1

216C.13 POST-SECONDARY ENERGY EDUCATION.

The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of children, families, and learning, the higher education services office, the board of trustees of the Minnesota state colleges and universities, and the board of regents of the University of Minnesota, shall assist in the development and implementation of adult and post-secondary energy education programs.

History: 1998 c 398 art 5 s 55

216C.19 ENERGY CONSERVATION.

[For text of subds 1 to 7, see M.S.1998]

Subd. 8. **Applicability to building code; rules.** In recognition of the compelling need for energy conservation in order to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare, it is necessary to provide building design and construction standards consistent with the most efficient use of energy. Therefore, the commissioner of administration, in consultation with the commissioner of public service, shall, pursuant to chapter 14, adopt rules governing building design and construction standards regarding heat loss control, illumination, and climate con-

trol. To the maximum extent practicable, the rules providing for the energy portions of the building code shall be based on and conform to model codes generally accepted throughout the United States. The rules shall apply to all new buildings and remodeling affecting heat loss control, illumination, and climate control. The rules shall be economically feasible in that the resultant savings in energy procurement shall exceed the cost of the energy-conserving requirements amortized over the life of the building. The rules adopted pursuant to this subdivision, shall be part of the State Building Code. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, all applications for approval of building specifications and plans may be submitted to the state building inspector as provided in section 16B.66.

[For text of subds 9 to 20, see M.S.1998]

History: 1999 c 135 s 5

216C.195 ENERGY CODE AMENDMENTS; NEW COMMERCIAL BUILDING.

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner to adopt.** The commissioner of administration, in consultation with the commissioner of public service, shall adopt amendments to the Energy Code portion of the Minnesota Building Code to implement energy-efficient standards for new commercial buildings.

[For text of subds 2 and 3, see M.S.1998]

History: 1999 c 135 s 6

216C.30 ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES, REMEDIES.

[For text of subds 1 to 4, see M.S.1998]

Subd. 5. **Remedies additional for health or safety violation.** For purposes of sections 504B.161 and 504B.185 and 504B.381 to 504B.471, the weatherstripping, caulking, storm window, and storm door energy efficiency standards for renter-occupied residences prescribed by section 216C.27, subdivisions 1 and 3, are health and safety standards and the penalties and remedies provided in this section are in addition to and do not limit remedies otherwise available to tenants of renter-occupied residences.

History: 1999 c 199 art 2 s 6

216C.41 RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION INCENTIVE.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(b) "Qualified hydroelectric facility" means a hydroelectric generating facility in this state that:

- (1) is located at the site of a dam, if the dam was in existence as of March 31, 1994; and
- (2) begins generating electricity after July 1, 1994.

(c) "Qualified wind energy conversion facility" means a wind energy conversion system that:

(1) produces two megawatts or less of electricity as measured by nameplate rating and begins generating electricity after June 30, 1997, and before July 1, 1999;

(2) begins generating electricity after June 30, 1999, produces two megawatts or less of electricity as measured by nameplate rating, and is:

(i) located within one county and owned by a natural person who owns the land where the facility is sited;

(ii) owned by a Minnesota small business as defined in section 645.445;

(iii) owned by a nonprofit organization; or

(iv) owned by a tribal council if the facility is located within the boundaries of the reservation; or

(3) begins generating electricity after June 30, 1999, produces seven megawatts or less of electricity as measured by nameplate rating, and:

(i) is owned by a cooperative organized under chapter 308A; and

(ii) all shares and membership in the cooperative are held by natural persons or estates, at least 51 percent of whom reside in a county or contiguous to a county where the wind energy production facilities of the cooperative are located.

Subd. 2. **Incentive payment.** Incentive payments shall be made according to this section to the owner or operator of a qualified hydropower facility or qualified wind energy conversion facility for electric energy generated and sold by the facility or, for a publicly owned hydropower facility, for electric energy that is generated by the facility and used by the owner of the facility outside the facility. Payment may only be made upon receipt by the commissioner of finance of an incentive payment application that establishes that the applicant is eligible to receive an incentive payment and that satisfies other requirements the commissioner deems necessary. The application shall be in a form and submitted at a time the commissioner establishes. There is annually appropriated from the general fund sums sufficient to make the payments required under this section.

[For text of subs 3 to 5, see M.S.1998]

History: 1999 c 223 art 2 s 34,35