

HCS HB 2689 -- STATE ENERGY POLICY (Miller)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Energy and the Environment

This bill specifies that it is the policy of the state to modernize the regulatory process for electrical corporations to more closely align the interests of electrical corporations and the customers they serve.

This bill allows aluminum smelting facilities, and their respective electrical corporation service provider, to jointly submit an application to the Public Service Commission for approval of an aluminum smelter rate. Such application must include specified features, and an executed contract between the facility and its electrical corporation service provider. Within 30 days of filing the application, the Public Service Commission must issue an order directing the electrical corporation to file tariffs containing the rates, terms and condition set forth in the application, and authorizing the electrical corporation to create a regulatory asset for the difference between revenues that would have been collected under the previous rate and the new aluminum smelter rate.

Any aluminum smelting facility must only be eligible for an aluminum smelter rate if it maintains a number of full-time employees not less than 1 1/2 times its megawatt demand. If a facility becomes ineligible for such rate, they must be served at a rate that would otherwise be applicable to a customer of its size and load characteristics.

The Division of Energy must review and update if necessary the Comprehensive State Energy Plan implemented by the division by January 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter. The division must review the plan to ensure it meets specified criteria. To conduct the review, the division must use a diverse stakeholder system or contract with a Missouri-based not-for-profit organization who meets specific requirements. The division must issue a report, along with the review, that suggests policy changes needed to meet set criteria.

This bill contains an emergency clause for the provisions relating to aluminum smelters.