## As Reported by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

# 131st General Assembly Regular Session

egular Session 2015-2016 Sub. H. B. No. 554

### **Representative Amstutz**

Cosponsors: Representatives Hill, Landis, Schaffer

# A BILL

| Го | amend sections 4928.143, 4928.64, 4928.643,      | 1  |
|----|--|----|
|    | 4928.645, 4928.65, 4928.66, 4928.662, 4928.6610, | 2  |
|    | and 5727.75 and to enact sections 4928.6620 and  | 3  |
|    | 4928.6621 of the Revised Code and to amend       | 4  |
|    | Section 6 of Sub. S.B. 310 of the 130th General  | 5  |
|    | Assembly and Section 257.80 of Am. Sub. H.B. 64  | 6  |
|    | of the 131st General Assembly to revise the      | 7  |
|    | requirements for renewable energy, energy        | 8  |
|    | efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to     | 9  |
|    | alter funding allocations under the Home Energy  | 10 |
|    | Assistance Program.                              | 11 |

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

| Section 1. That sections 4928.143, 4928.64, 4928.643,            | 12  |
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| 4928.645, 4928.65, 4928.66, 4928.662, 4928.6610, and 5727.75 be  | 13  |
| amended and sections 4928.6620 and 4928.6621 of the Revised Code | 14  |
| pe enacted to read as follows:                                   |     |
| Sec. 4928.143. (A) For the purpose of complying with             | 16  |
| section 4928.141 of the Revised Code, an electric distribution   | 17  |
| utility may file an application for public utilities commission  | 1.8 |

| approval of an electric security plan as prescribed under     |
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| division (B) of this section. The utility may file that       |
| application prior to the effective date of any rules the      |
| commission may adopt for the purpose of this section, and, as |
| the commission determines necessary, the utility immediately  |
| shall conform its filing to those rules upon their taking     |
| effect.   |

- (B) Notwithstanding any other provision of Title XLIX of

  the Revised Code to the contrary except division (D) of this

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  section, divisions (I), (J), and (K) of section 4928.20,

  division (E) (F) of section 4928.64, and section 4928.69 of the

  Revised Code:

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- (1) An electric security plan shall include provisions 31 relating to the supply and pricing of electric generation 32 service. In addition, if the proposed electric security plan has 33 a term longer than three years, it may include provisions in the 34 plan to permit the commission to test the plan pursuant to 35 division (E) of this section and any transitional conditions 36 that should be adopted by the commission if the commission 37 terminates the plan as authorized under that division. 38
- (2) The plan may provide for or include, without
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  limitation, any of the following:
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- (a) Automatic recovery of any of the following costs of 41 the electric distribution utility, provided the cost is 42 prudently incurred: the cost of fuel used to generate the 43 electricity supplied under the offer; the cost of purchased 44 power supplied under the offer, including the cost of energy and 45 capacity, and including purchased power acquired from an 46 affiliate; the cost of emission allowances; and the cost of 47 federally mandated carbon or energy taxes; 48

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- (b) A reasonable allowance for construction work in 49 progress for any of the electric distribution utility's cost of 50 constructing an electric generating facility or for an 51 environmental expenditure for any electric generating facility 52 of the electric distribution utility, provided the cost is 5.3 incurred or the expenditure occurs on or after January 1, 2009. 54 Any such allowance shall be subject to the construction work in 55 progress allowance limitations of division (A) of section 56 4909.15 of the Revised Code, except that the commission may 57 authorize such an allowance upon the incurrence of the cost or 58 occurrence of the expenditure. No such allowance for generating 59 facility construction shall be authorized, however, unless the 60 commission first determines in the proceeding that there is need 61 for the facility based on resource planning projections 62 submitted by the electric distribution utility. Further, no such 63 allowance shall be authorized unless the facility's construction 64 was sourced through a competitive bid process, regarding which 65 process the commission may adopt rules. An allowance approved 66 under division (B)(2)(b) of this section shall be established as 67 a nonbypassable surcharge for the life of the facility. 68
- (c) The establishment of a nonbypassable surcharge for the life of an electric generating facility that is owned or operated by the electric distribution utility, was sourced through a competitive bid process subject to any such rules as the commission adopts under division (B)(2)(b) of this section, and is newly used and useful on or after January 1, 2009, which surcharge shall cover all costs of the utility specified in the application, excluding costs recovered through a surcharge under division (B)(2)(b) of this section. However, no surcharge shall be authorized unless the commission first determines in the proceeding that there is need for the facility based on resource

| planning projections submitted by the electric distribution      | 80  |
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| utility. Additionally, if a surcharge is authorized for a        | 81  |
| facility pursuant to plan approval under division (C) of this    | 82  |
| section and as a condition of the continuation of the surcharge, | 83  |
| the electric distribution utility shall dedicate to Ohio         | 84  |
| consumers the capacity and energy and the rate associated with   | 85  |
| the cost of that facility. Before the commission authorizes any  | 86  |
| surcharge pursuant to this division, it may consider, as         | 87  |
| applicable, the effects of any decommissioning, deratings, and   | 88  |
| retirements.   | 89  |
| (d) Terms, conditions, or charges relating to limitations        | 90  |
| on customer shopping for retail electric generation service,     | 91  |
| bypassability, standby, back-up, or supplemental power service,  | 92  |
| default service, carrying costs, amortization periods, and       | 93  |
| accounting or deferrals, including future recovery of such       | 94  |
| deferrals, as would have the effect of stabilizing or providing  | 95  |
| certainty regarding retail electric service;                     | 96  |
| (e) Automatic increases or decreases in any component of         | 97  |
| the standard service offer price;                                | 98  |
| (f) Consistent with sections 4928.23 to 4928.2318 of the         | 99  |
| Revised Code, both of the following:                             | 100 |
| (i) Provisions for the electric distribution utility to          | 101 |
| securitize any phase-in, inclusive of carrying charges, of the   | 102 |
| utility's standard service offer price, which phase-in is        | 103 |
| authorized in accordance with section 4928.144 of the Revised    | 104 |
| Code;  | 105 |
| (ii) Provisions for the recovery of the utility's cost of        | 106 |
| securitization.  | 107 |

(g) Provisions relating to transmission, ancillary,

| congestion, or any related service required for the standard     | 109 |
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| service offer, including provisions for the recovery of any cost | 110 |
| of such service that the electric distribution utility incurs on | 111 |
| or after that date pursuant to the standard service offer;       | 112 |
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- (h) Provisions regarding the utility's distribution 113 service, including, without limitation and notwithstanding any 114 provision of Title XLIX of the Revised Code to the contrary, 115 provisions regarding single issue ratemaking, a revenue 116 decoupling mechanism or any other incentive ratemaking, and 117 provisions regarding distribution infrastructure and 118 modernization incentives for the electric distribution utility. 119 The latter may include a long-term energy delivery 120 infrastructure modernization plan for that utility or any plan 121 providing for the utility's recovery of costs, including lost 122 revenue, shared savings, and avoided costs, and a just and 123 reasonable rate of return on such infrastructure modernization. 124 As part of its determination as to whether to allow in an 125 electric distribution utility's electric security plan inclusion 126 of any provision described in division (B)(2)(h) of this 127 section, the commission shall examine the reliability of the 128 electric distribution utility's distribution system and ensure 129 that customers' and the electric distribution utility's 130 expectations are aligned and that the electric distribution 131 utility is placing sufficient emphasis on and dedicating 132 sufficient resources to the reliability of its distribution 133 134 system.
- (i) Provisions under which the electric distribution 135
  utility may implement economic development, job retention, and 136
  energy efficiency programs, which provisions may allocate 137
  program costs across all classes of customers of the utility and 138
  those of electric distribution utilities in the same holding 139

company system.

- (C)(1) The burden of proof in the proceeding shall be on 141 the electric distribution utility. The commission shall issue an 142 order under this division for an initial application under this 143 section not later than one hundred fifty days after the 144 application's filing date and, for any subsequent application by 145 the utility under this section, not later than two hundred 146 seventy-five days after the application's filing date. Subject 147 to division (D) of this section, the commission by order shall 148 approve or modify and approve an application filed under 149 division (A) of this section if it finds that the electric 150 security plan so approved, including its pricing and all other 151 terms and conditions, including any deferrals and any future 152 recovery of deferrals, is more favorable in the aggregate as 153 compared to the expected results that would otherwise apply 154 under section 4928.142 of the Revised Code. Additionally, if the 155 commission so approves an application that contains a surcharge 156 under division (B)(2)(b) or (c) of this section, the commission 157 shall ensure that the benefits derived for any purpose for which 158 the surcharge is established are reserved and made available to 159 those that bear the surcharge. Otherwise, the commission by 160 order shall disapprove the application. 161
- (2) (a) If the commission modifies and approves an 162 application under division (C) (1) of this section, the electric 163 distribution utility may withdraw the application, thereby 164 terminating it, and may file a new standard service offer under 165 this section or a standard service offer under section 4928.142 166 of the Revised Code.
- (b) If the utility terminates an application pursuant to 168 division (C)(2)(a) of this section or if the commission 169

| disapproves an application under division (C)(1) of this        | 170 |
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| section, the commission shall issue such order as is necessary  | 171 |
| to continue the provisions, terms, and conditions of the        | 172 |
| utility's most recent standard service offer, along with any    | 173 |
| expected increases or decreases in fuel costs from those        | 174 |
| contained in that offer, until a subsequent offer is authorized | 175 |
| pursuant to this section or section 4928.142 of the Revised     | 176 |
| Code, respectively.   | 177 |

- (D) Regarding the rate plan requirement of division (A) of 178 section 4928.141 of the Revised Code, if an electric 179 distribution utility that has a rate plan that extends beyond 180 December 31, 2008, files an application under this section for 181 the purpose of its compliance with division (A) of section 182 4928.141 of the Revised Code, that rate plan and its terms and 183 conditions are hereby incorporated into its proposed electric 184 security plan and shall continue in effect until the date 185 scheduled under the rate plan for its expiration, and that 186 portion of the electric security plan shall not be subject to 187 commission approval or disapproval under division (C) of this 188 section, and the earnings test provided for in division (F) of 189 this section shall not apply until after the expiration of the 190 rate plan. However, that utility may include in its electric 191 security plan under this section, and the commission may 192 approve, modify and approve, or disapprove subject to division 193 (C) of this section, provisions for the incremental recovery or 194 the deferral of any costs that are not being recovered under the 195 rate plan and that the utility incurs during that continuation 196 period to comply with section 4928.141, division (B) of section 197 4928.64, or division (A) of section 4928.66 of the Revised Code. 198
- (E) If an electric security plan approved under division 199
  (C) of this section, except one withdrawn by the utility as 200

| authorized under that division, has a term, exclusive of phase-  | 201 |
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| ins or deferrals, that exceeds three years from the effective    | 202 |
| date of the plan, the commission shall test the plan in the      | 203 |
| fourth year, and if applicable, every fourth year thereafter, to | 204 |
| determine whether the plan, including its then-existing pricing  | 205 |
| and all other terms and conditions, including any deferrals and  | 206 |
| any future recovery of deferrals, continues to be more favorable | 207 |
| in the aggregate and during the remaining term of the plan as    | 208 |
| compared to the expected results that would otherwise apply      | 209 |
| under section 4928.142 of the Revised Code. The commission shall | 210 |
| also determine the prospective effect of the electric security   | 211 |
| plan to determine if that effect is substantially likely to      | 212 |
| provide the electric distribution utility with a return on       | 213 |
| common equity that is significantly in excess of the return on   | 214 |
| common equity that is likely to be earned by publicly traded     | 215 |
| companies, including utilities, that face comparable business    | 216 |
| and financial risk, with such adjustments for capital structure  | 217 |
| as may be appropriate. The burden of proof for demonstrating     | 218 |
| that significantly excessive earnings will not occur shall be on | 219 |
| the electric distribution utility. If the test results are in    | 220 |
| the negative or the commission finds that continuation of the    | 221 |
| electric security plan will result in a return on equity that is | 222 |
| significantly in excess of the return on common equity that is   | 223 |
| likely to be earned by publicly traded companies, including      | 224 |
| utilities, that will face comparable business and financial      | 225 |
| risk, with such adjustments for capital structure as may be      | 226 |
| appropriate, during the balance of the plan, the commission may  | 227 |
| terminate the electric security plan, but not until it shall     | 228 |
| have provided interested parties with notice and an opportunity  | 229 |
| to be heard. The commission may impose such conditions on the    | 230 |
| plan's termination as it considers reasonable and necessary to   | 231 |
| accommodate the transition from an approved plan to the more     | 232 |

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advantageous alternative. In the event of an electric security plan's termination pursuant to this division, the commission shall permit the continued deferral and phase-in of any amounts that occurred prior to that termination and the recovery of those amounts as contemplated under that electric security plan.

(F) With regard to the provisions that are included in an 238 electric security plan under this section, the commission shall 239 consider, following the end of each annual period of the plan, 240 if any such adjustments resulted in excessive earnings as 241 242 measured by whether the earned return on common equity of the electric distribution utility is significantly in excess of the 243 return on common equity that was earned during the same period 244 by publicly traded companies, including utilities, that face 245 comparable business and financial risk, with such adjustments 246 for capital structure as may be appropriate. Consideration also 247 shall be given to the capital requirements of future committed 248 investments in this state. The burden of proof for demonstrating 249 that significantly excessive earnings did not occur shall be on 250 the electric distribution utility. If the commission finds that 251 such adjustments, in the aggregate, did result in significantly 252 excessive earnings, it shall require the electric distribution 253 utility to return to consumers the amount of the excess by 254 prospective adjustments; provided that, upon making such 255 prospective adjustments, the electric distribution utility shall 256 have the right to terminate the plan and immediately file an 257 application pursuant to section 4928.142 of the Revised Code. 258 Upon termination of a plan under this division, rates shall be 259 set on the same basis as specified in division (C)(2)(b) of this 260 section, and the commission shall permit the continued deferral 261 and phase-in of any amounts that occurred prior to that 262 termination and the recovery of those amounts as contemplated 263

(d) Electric generation equipment owned or controlled by a

| (2) For the purpose of this section and as it considers        | 294 |
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| appropriate, the public utilities commission may classify any  | 295 |
| new technology as such a qualifying renewable energy resource. | 296 |
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- (B) (1) By 2027 and thereafter, an electric distribution 297 utility shall provide from qualifying renewable energy 298 resources, including, at its discretion, qualifying renewable 299 energy resources obtained pursuant to an electricity supply 300 contract, a portion of the electricity supply required for its 301 standard service offer under section 4928.141 of the Revised 302 Code, and an electric services company shall provide a portion 303 of its electricity supply for retail consumers in this state 304 from qualifying renewable energy resources, including, at its 305 discretion, qualifying renewable energy resources obtained 306 pursuant to an electricity supply contract. That portion shall 307 equal twelve and one-half per cent of the total number of 308 kilowatt hours of electricity sold by the subject utility or 309 company to any and all retail electric consumers whose electric 310 load centers are served by that utility and are located within 311 the utility's certified territory or, in the case of an electric 312 services company, are served by the company and are located 313 within this state. However, nothing in this section precludes a 314 utility or company from providing a greater percentage. 315
- (2) The portion required under division (B)(1) of this 316 section shall be generated from renewable energy resources, 317 including one-half per cent from solar energy resources, in 318 accordance with the following benchmarks, subject to section 319 4928.6620 of the Revised Code: 320

| By end of year | Renewable energy | Solar energy | 321 |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|-----|
|                | resources        | resources    | 322 |

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|---|-------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| 2009  | 0.25%             | 0.004%                | 323     |
| 2010  | 0.50%             | 0.010%                | 324     |
| 2011  | 1%                | 0.030%                | 325     |
| 2012  | 1.5%              | 0.060%                | 326     |
| 2013  | 2%                | 0.090%                | 327     |
| 2014  | 2.5%              | 0.12%                 | 328     |
| 2015  | 2.5%              | 0.12%                 | 329     |
| 2016  | 2.5%              | 0.12%                 | 330     |
| 2017  | 3.5%              | 0.15%                 | 331     |
| 2018  | 4.5%              | 0.18%                 | 332     |
| 2019  | 5.5%              | 0.22%                 | 333     |
| 2020  | 6.5%              | 0.26%                 | 334     |
| 2021  | 7.5%              | 0.3%                  | 335     |
| 2022  | 8.5%              | 0.34%                 | 336     |
| 2023  | 9.5%              | 0.38%                 | 337     |
| 2024  | 10.5%             | 0.42%                 | 338     |
| 2025  | 11.5%             | 0.46%                 | 339     |
| 2026 and each calendar  | 12.5%             | 0.5%.                 | 340     |
| year thereafter   |                   |                       | 341     |
| (3) The qualifying :  | renewable energy  | resources implemented | 342     |
| by the utility or company   |                   |                       | 343     |
| (a) Through facilit   | ies located in th | is state; or          | 344     |
| (b) With resources  | that can be shown | to be deliverable     | 345     |
| into this state.  |                   |                       | 346     |
| (C) <u>Beginning in 20</u> 2  | 20:               |                       | 347     |
| (1) The Based on the  | e information rep | orted under section_  | 348     |
| 4928.6620 of the Revised Code and any other information that is                     |                   |                       | 349     |
| <pre>public, the commission annually shall review an electric</pre>                 |                   |                       | 350     |

distribution utility's or electric services company's compliance

| with the most recent applicable benchmark under division (B)(2)                         | 352 |  |
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| of this section for the previous year and, in the course of that                        | 353 |  |
| review, shall identify any undercompliance or noncompliance of                          | 354 |  |
| the utility or company that it determines is weather-related,                           | 355 |  |
| related to equipment or resource shortages for qualifying                               | 356 |  |
| renewable energy resources as applicable, or is otherwise                               | 357 |  |
| outside the utility's or company's control.   | 358 |  |
| (2) Subject to the cost cap provisions of division (C)(3)                               | 359 |  |
| of this section, if the commission determines, after notice and                         | 360 |  |
| opportunity for hearing, and based upon its findings in <a href="that-the">that-the</a> | 361 |  |
| review <u>under division (C)(1) of this section</u> regarding avoidable                 | 362 |  |
| undercompliance or noncompliance, but subject to division (C)(4)                        | 363 |  |
| of this section, that the utility or company has failed to                              | 364 |  |
| comply with any such the benchmark for the previous year, the                           | 365 |  |
| commission shall impose a renewable energy compliance payment on                        | 366 |  |
| the utility or company.   | 367 |  |
| (a) The compliance payment pertaining to the solar energy                               | 368 |  |
| resource benchmarks under division (B)(2) of this section shall                         | 369 |  |
| be an amount per megawatt hour of undercompliance or                                    |     |  |
| noncompliance in the period under review, as follows:                                   | 371 |  |
| (i) Three hundred dollars for 2014, 2015, and 2016;                                     | 372 |  |
| (ii) Two hundred fifty dollars for 2017 and 2018;                                       | 373 |  |
| (iii) Two hundred dollars for 2019 and 2020;  | 374 |  |
| (iv) (ii) One hundred fifty dollars for 2021 and 2022;                                  | 375 |  |
| (iii) Similarly reduced every two years thereafter through                              | 376 |  |
| 2026 by fifty dollars, to a minimum of fifty dollars.                                   | 377 |  |
| (b) The compliance payment pertaining to the renewable                                  | 378 |  |
| energy resource benchmarks under division (B)(2) of this section                        | 379 |  |

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| shall equal the number of additional renewable energy credits    | 380 |
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| that the electric distribution utility or electric services      | 381 |
| company would have needed to comply with the applicable          | 382 |
| benchmark in the period under review times an amount that shall  | 383 |
| begin at forty-five dollars and shall be adjusted annually by    | 384 |
| the commission to reflect any change in the consumer price index | 385 |
| as defined in section 101.27 of the Revised Code, but shall not  | 386 |
| be less than forty-five dollars.                                 | 387 |

- (c) The compliance payment shall not be passed through by the electric distribution utility or electric services company to consumers. The compliance payment shall be remitted to the commission, for deposit to the credit of the advanced energy fund created under section 4928.61 of the Revised Code. Payment of the compliance payment shall be subject to such collection and enforcement procedures as apply to the collection of a forfeiture under sections 4905.55 to 4905.60 and 4905.64 of the Revised Code.
- (3) An electric distribution utility or an electric 397 services company need not comply with a benchmark under division 398 399 (B)(2) of this section to the extent that its reasonably expected cost of that compliance exceeds its reasonably expected 400 cost of otherwise producing or acquiring the requisite 401 electricity by three per cent or more. The cost of compliance 402 shall be calculated as though any exemption from taxes and 403 assessments had not been granted under section 5727.75 of the 404 Revised Code. 405
- (4) (a) An electric distribution utility or electric 406 services company may request the commission to make a force 407 majeure determination pursuant to this division regarding all or 408 part of the utility's or company's compliance with any minimum 409

| benchmark under division (B)(2) of this section during the       | 410 |
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| period of review occurring pursuant to division (C)(2) of this   | 411 |
| section. The commission may require the electric distribution    | 412 |
| utility or electric services company to make solicitations for   | 413 |
| renewable energy resource credits as part of its default service | 414 |
| before the utility's or company's request of force majeure under | 415 |
| this division can be made.                                       | 416 |

- (b) Within ninety days after the filing of a request by an 417 electric distribution utility or electric services company under 418 division (C)(4)(a) of this section, the commission shall 419 420 determine if qualifying renewable energy resources are reasonably available in the marketplace in sufficient quantities 421 for the utility or company to comply with the subject minimum 422 benchmark during the review period. In making this 423 determination, the commission shall consider whether the 424 electric distribution utility or electric services company has 425 made a good faith effort to acquire sufficient qualifying 426 renewable energy or, as applicable, solar energy resources to so 427 comply, including, but not limited to, by banking or seeking 428 renewable energy resource credits or by seeking the resources 429 through long-term contracts. Additionally, the commission shall 430 consider the availability of qualifying renewable energy or 431 solar energy resources in this state and other jurisdictions in 432 the PJM interconnection regional transmission organization, 433 L.L.C., or its successor and the midcontinent independent system 434 operator or its successor. 435
- (c) If, pursuant to division (C)(4)(b) of this section,

  the commission determines that qualifying renewable energy or

  solar energy resources are not reasonably available to permit

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  the electric distribution utility or electric services company

  to comply, during the period of review, with the subject minimum

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| benchmark prescribed under division (B)(2) of this section, the  | 441 |
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| commission shall modify that compliance obligation of the        | 442 |
| utility or company as it determines appropriate to accommodate   | 443 |
| the finding. Commission modification shall not automatically     | 444 |
| reduce the obligation for the electric distribution utility's or | 445 |
| electric services company's compliance in subsequent years. If   | 446 |
| it modifies the electric distribution utility or electric        | 447 |
| services company obligation under division (C)(4)(c) of this     | 448 |
| section, the commission may require the utility or company, if   | 449 |
| sufficient renewable energy resource credits exist in the        | 450 |
| marketplace, to acquire additional renewable energy resource     | 451 |
| credits in subsequent years equivalent to the utility's or       | 452 |
| company's modified obligation under division (C)(4)(c) of this   | 453 |
| section.   | 454 |

(5)—(D) The sole penalty for an electric distribution 455
utility's or electric services company's failure to comply with 456
any provision of division (B)(2) of this section shall be the 457
imposition of compliance payments in accordance with division 458
(C) of this section.

(E) The commission shall establish a process to provide 460 for at least an annual review of the renewable energy resource 461 market in this state and in the service territories of the 462 regional transmission organizations that manage transmission 463 systems located in this state. The commission shall use the 464 results of this study to identify any needed changes to the 465 amount of the renewable energy compliance payment specified 466 under divisions (C)(2)(a) and (b) of this section. Specifically, 467 the commission may increase the amount to ensure that payment of 468 compliance payments is not used to achieve compliance with this 469 section in lieu of actually acquiring or realizing energy 470 derived from qualifying renewable energy resources. However, if 471

| the commission finds that the amount of the compliance payment   | 472 |
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| should be otherwise changed, the commission shall present this   | 473 |
| finding to the general assembly for legislative enactment.       | 474 |
| (D) The commission annually shall submit to the general          | 475 |
| assembly in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised Code a | 476 |
| report describing all of the following:                          | 477 |
| (1) The compliance of electric distribution utilities and        | 478 |
| electric services companies with division (B) of this section;   | 479 |
| (2) The average annual cost of renewable energy credits          | 480 |
| purchased by utilities and companies for the year covered in the | 481 |
| report;  | 482 |
| (3) Any strategy for utility and company compliance or for       | 483 |
| encouraging the use of qualifying renewable energy resources in  | 484 |
| supplying this state's electricity needs in a manner that-       | 485 |
| considers available technology, costs, job creation, and         | 486 |
| economic impacts.  | 487 |
| The commission shall begin providing the information             | 488 |
| described in division (D)(2) of this section in each report      | 489 |
| submitted after September 10, 2012. The commission shall allow-  | 490 |
| and consider public comments on the report prior to its          | 491 |
| submission to the general assembly. Nothing in the report shall  | 492 |
| be binding on any person, including any utility or company for-  | 493 |
| the purpose of its compliance with any benchmark under division- | 494 |
| (B) of this section, or the enforcement of that provision under- | 495 |
| division (C) of this section.                                    | 496 |
| (E) (F) All costs incurred by an electric distribution           | 497 |
| utility in complying with the requirements provisions of this    | 498 |
| section shall be bypassable by any consumer that has exercised   | 499 |
| choice of supplier under section 4928.03 of the Revised Code.    | 500 |

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| Sec. 4928.643. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of                  | 501 |
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| this section and section 4928.644 of the Revised Code, the                | 502 |
| baseline for an electric distribution utility's or an electric            | 503 |
| services company's compliance with the qualified renewable                | 504 |
| energy resource requirements provisions of section 4928.64 of             | 505 |
| the Revised Code shall be the average of total kilowatt hours             | 506 |
| sold by the utility or company in the preceding three calendar            | 507 |
| years to the following:   | 508 |
| (1) In the case of an electric distribution utility, any                  | 509 |
| and all retail electric consumers whose electric load centers             | 510 |
| are served by that utility and are located within the utility's           | 511 |
| certified territory;  | 512 |
| (2) In the case of an electric services company, any and                  | 513 |
| all retail electric consumers who are served by the company and           | 514 |
| are located within this state.  | 515 |
| (B) Beginning with compliance year 2014, a utility or                     | 516 |
| company may choose for its baseline for compliance with the               | 517 |
| qualified renewable energy resource <pre>requirements_provisions_of</pre> | 518 |
| section 4928.64 of the Revised Code to be the total kilowatt              | 519 |
| hours sold to the applicable consumers, as described in division          | 520 |
| (A)(1) or (2) of this section, in the applicable compliance               | 521 |
| year.   | 522 |
| (C) A utility or company that uses the baseline permitted                 | 523 |
| under division (B) of this section may use the baseline                   | 524 |
| described in division (A) of this section in any subsequent               | 525 |
| compliance year. A utility or company that makes this switch              | 526 |
| shall use the baseline described in division (A) of this section          | 527 |

for at least three consecutive compliance years before again

using the baseline permitted under division (B) of this section.

| Sec. 4928.645. (A) An electric distribution utility or           | 530 |
|--|-----|
| electric services company may use, for the purpose of complying  | 531 |
| with the requirements provisions under divisions (B)(1) and (2)  | 532 |
| of section 4928.64 of the Revised Code, renewable energy credits | 533 |
| any time in the five calendar years following the date of their  | 534 |
| purchase or acquisition from any entity, including, but not      | 535 |
| limited to, the following:                                       | 536 |
| (1) A mercantile customer;                                       | 537 |
| (2) An owner or operator of a hydroelectric generating           | 538 |
| facility that is located at a dam on a river, or on any water    | 539 |
| discharged to a river, that is within or bordering this state or | 540 |
| within or bordering an adjoining state, or that produces power   | 541 |
| that can be shown to be deliverable into this state;             | 542 |
| (3) A seller of compressed natural gas that has been             | 543 |
| produced from biologically derived methane gas, provided that    | 544 |
| the seller may only provide renewable energy credits for metered | 545 |
| amounts of gas.  | 546 |
| (B)(1) The public utilities commission shall adopt rules         | 547 |
| specifying that one unit of credit shall equal one megawatt hour | 548 |
| of electricity derived from renewable energy resources, except   | 549 |
| that, for a generating facility of seventy-five megawatts or     | 550 |
| greater that is situated within this state and has committed by  | 551 |
| December 31, 2009, to modify or retrofit its generating unit or  | 552 |
| units to enable the facility to generate principally from        | 553 |
| biomass energy by June 30, 2013, each megawatt hour of           | 554 |
| electricity generated principally from that biomass energy shall | 555 |
| equal, in units of credit, the product obtained by multiplying   | 556 |
| the actual percentage of biomass feedstock heat input used to    | 557 |
| generate such megawatt hour by the quotient obtained by dividing | 558 |

the then existing unit dollar amount used to determine a

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| renewable energy compliance payment as provided under division  | 560 |
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| (C)(2)(b) of section 4928.64 of the Revised Code by the then    | 561 |
| existing market value of one renewable energy credit, but such  | 562 |
| megawatt hour shall not equal less than one unit of credit.     | 563 |
| Renewable energy resources do not have to be converted to       | 564 |
| electricity in order to be eligible to receive renewable energy | 565 |
| credits. The rules shall specify that, for purposes of          | 566 |
| converting the quantity of energy derived from biologically     | 567 |
| derived methane gas to an electricity equivalent, one megawatt  | 568 |
| hour equals 3,412,142 British thermal units.                    | 569 |

- (2) The rules also shall provide for this state a system of registering renewable energy credits by specifying which of any generally available registries shall be used for that purpose and not by creating a registry. That selected system of registering renewable energy credits shall allow a hydroelectric generating facility to be eligible for obtaining renewable energy credits and shall allow customer-sited projects or actions the broadest opportunities to be eligible for obtaining renewable energy credits.
- Sec. 4928.65. (A) Not later than January 1, 2015, the 579 public utilities commission shall adopt rules governing the 580 disclosure of the costs to customers of the renewable energy 581 resource, energy efficiency savings, and peak demand reduction 582 requirements provisions of sections 4928.64 and 4928.66 of the 583 Revised Code. The rules shall include both of the following 584 requirements:
- (1) That every electric distribution utility list, on all 586 customer bills sent by the utility, including utility 587 consolidated bills that include both electric distribution 588 utility and electric services company charges, the individual 589

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companies, as listed in the commission's most recently available 619 alternative energy portfolio standard report. 620

(C) The costs required to be listed under division (A)(1) 621 of this section shall be listed on each customer's monthly bill 622 as three distinct line items. The cost required to be listed 623 under division (A)(2) of this section shall be listed on each 624 customer's monthly bill as a distinct line item. 625

Sec. 4928.66. (A) (1) (a) Beginning in 2009, an electric 626 distribution utility shall implement energy efficiency programs 627 that achieve energy savings equivalent to at least three-tenths 628 of one per cent of the total, annual average, and normalized 629 kilowatt-hour sales of the electric distribution utility during 630 the preceding three calendar years to customers in this state. 631 An energy efficiency program may include a combined heat and 632 power system placed into service or retrofitted on or after the 633 effective date of the amendment of this section by S.B. 315 of 634 the 129th general assembly, September 10, 2012, or a waste 635 energy recovery system placed into service or retrofitted on or 636 after September 10, 2012, except that a waste energy recovery 637 system described in division (A)(38)(b) of section 4928.01 of 638 the Revised Code may be included only if it was placed into 639 service between January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2004. For a 640 waste energy recovery or combined heat and power system, the 641 savings shall be as estimated by the public utilities 642 commission. The savings requirement, using such a three-year 643 average, shall increase to an additional five-tenths of one per 644 cent in 2010, seven-tenths of one per cent in 2011, eight-tenths 645 of one per cent in 2012, nine-tenths of one per cent in 2013, 646 and one per cent in 2014. In 2015 and 2016, an electric 647 distribution utility shall achieve energy savings equal to the 648 result of subtracting the cumulative energy savings achieved 649

| since 2009 from the product of multiplying the baseline for                         | 650 |
|---|-----|
| energy savings, described in division (A)(2)(a) of this section,                    | 651 |
| by four and two-tenths of one per cent. If the result is zero or                    | 652 |
| less for the year for which the calculation is being made, the                      | 653 |
| utility shall not be required to achieve additional energy                          | 654 |
| savings for that year, but may achieve additional energy savings                    | 655 |
| for that year. Thereafter, the annual savings requirements shall                    | 656 |
| be, for years 2017, 2018, 2019, <del>and</del> 2020, <u>2021, 2022, 2023,</u>       | 657 |
| 2024, and 2025, one per cent of the baseline, and two per cent                      | 658 |
| each year thereafter for years 2026 and 2027, achieving                             | 659 |
| cumulative energy savings in excess of <del>twenty-two</del> _ <u>seventeen</u> per | 660 |
| cent by the end of 2027. For purposes of a waste energy recovery                    | 661 |
| or combined heat and power system, an electric distribution                         | 662 |
| utility shall not apply more than the total annual percentage of                    | 663 |
| the electric distribution utility's industrial-customer load,                       | 664 |
| relative to the electric distribution utility's total load, to                      | 665 |
| the annual energy savings requirement.  | 666 |

(b) Beginning in 2009, an electric distribution utility 667 shall implement peak demand reduction programs designed to 668 achieve a one per cent reduction in peak demand in 2009 and an 669 additional seventy-five hundredths of one per cent reduction 670 each year through 2014. In 2015 and 2016, an electric 671 distribution utility shall achieve a reduction in peak demand 672 equal to the result of subtracting the cumulative peak demand 673 reductions achieved since 2009 from the product of multiplying 674 the baseline for peak demand reduction, described in division 675 (A) (2) (a) of this section, by four and seventy-five hundredths 676 of one per cent. If the result is zero or less for the year for 677 which the calculation is being made, the utility shall not be 678 required to achieve an additional reduction in peak demand for 679 that year, but may achieve an additional reduction in peak 680

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| demand for that year. In 2017 and each year thereafter through   | 681 |
|--|-----|
| 2020, the utility shall achieve an additional seventy-five       | 682 |
| hundredths of one per cent reduction in peak demand.             | 683 |
| (c) Subject to section 4928.6620 of the Revised Code,            | 684 |
| noncompliance with the provisions of divisions (A)(1)(a) and (b) | 685 |
| of this section shall be subject to forfeitures under division   | 686 |
| (C) of this section only for the requirements for years 2016,    | 687 |
| 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027, as     | 688 |
| applicable. The sole penalty for an electric distribution        | 689 |
| utility's failure to comply with any provision of divisions (A)  | 690 |
| (1) (a) and (b) of this section shall be the assessment of       | 691 |
| forfeitures in accordance with division (C) of this section.     | 692 |
| (2) For the purposes of divisions (A)(1)(a) and (b) of           | 693 |
| this section:  | 694 |
| (a) The baseline for energy savings under division (A)(1)        | 695 |
| (a) of this section shall be the average of the total kilowatt   | 696 |
| hours the electric distribution utility sold in the preceding    | 697 |
| three calendar years. The baseline for a peak demand reduction   | 698 |
| under division (A)(1)(b) of this section shall be the average    | 699 |
| peak demand on the utility in the preceding three calendar       | 700 |
| years, except that the commission may reduce either baseline to  | 701 |
| adjust for new economic growth in the utility's certified        | 702 |
| territory. Neither baseline shall include the load and usage of  | 703 |
| any of the following customers:                                  | 704 |
| (i) Beginning January 1, 2017, a customer for which a            | 705 |
| reasonable arrangement has been approved under section 4905.31   | 706 |
| of the Revised Code;   | 707 |
| (ii) A customer that has opted out of the utility's              | 708 |
| portfolio plan under section 4928.6611 of the Revised Code;      | 709 |
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- (iii) A customer that has opted out of the utility's portfolio plan under Section 8 of S.B. 310 of the 130th general assembly.
- (b) The commission may amend the benchmarks set forth in 713 division (A)(1)(a) or (b) of this section if, after application 714 by the electric distribution utility, the commission determines 715 that the amendment is necessary because the utility cannot 716 reasonably achieve the benchmarks due to regulatory, economic, 717 or technological reasons beyond its reasonable control. 718
- (c) Compliance with divisions (A)(1)(a) and (b) of this 719 section shall be measured by including the effects of all 720 721 demand-response programs for mercantile customers of the subject electric distribution utility, all waste energy recovery systems 722 and all combined heat and power systems, and all such mercantile 723 customer-sited energy efficiency, including waste energy 724 recovery and combined heat and power, and peak demand reduction 725 programs, adjusted upward by the appropriate loss factors. Any 726 mechanism designed to recover the cost of energy efficiency, 727 including waste energy recovery and combined heat and power, and 728 peak demand reduction programs under divisions (A)(1)(a) and (b) 729 of this section may exempt mercantile customers that commit 730 their demand-response or other customer-sited capabilities, 731 whether existing or new, for integration into the electric 732 distribution utility's demand-response, energy efficiency, 733 including waste energy recovery and combined heat and power, or 734 peak demand reduction programs, if the commission determines 735 that that exemption reasonably encourages such customers to 736 commit those capabilities to those programs. If a mercantile 737 customer makes such existing or new demand-response, energy 738 efficiency, including waste energy recovery and combined heat 739 and power, or peak demand reduction capability available to an 740

| electric distribution utility pursuant to division (A)(2)(c) of  | 741 |
|--|-----|
| this section, the electric utility's baseline under division (A) | 742 |
| (2)(a) of this section shall be adjusted to exclude the effects  | 743 |
| of all such demand-response, energy efficiency, including waste  | 744 |
| energy recovery and combined heat and power, or peak demand      | 745 |
| reduction programs that may have existed during the period used  | 746 |
| to establish the baseline. The baseline also shall be normalized | 747 |
| for changes in numbers of customers, sales, weather, peak        | 748 |
| demand, and other appropriate factors so that the compliance     | 749 |
| measurement is not unduly influenced by factors outside the      | 750 |
| control of the electric distribution utility.                    | 751 |
| (d)(i) Programs implemented by a utility may include the         | 752 |
| following:   | 753 |
| (I) Demand-response programs;                                    | 754 |
| (II) Smart grid investment programs, provided that such          | 755 |
| programs are demonstrated to be cost-beneficial;                 | 756 |
| (III) Customer-sited programs, including waste energy            | 757 |
| recovery and combined heat and power systems;                    | 758 |
| (IV) Transmission and distribution infrastructure                | 759 |
| improvements that reduce line losses;                            | 760 |
| (V) Energy intensity reductions resulting from heat rate         | 761 |
| improvements at electric generating plants. As used in this      | 762 |
| division, "energy intensity" has the same meaning as in section  | 763 |
| 4928.6610 of the Revised Code.                                   | 764 |
| (VI) Energy efficiency savings and peak demand reduction         | 765 |
| that are achieved, in whole or in part, as a result of funding   | 766 |
| provided from the universal service fund established by section  | 767 |
| 4928.51 of the Revised Code to benefit low-income customers      | 768 |
| through programs that include, but are not limited to, energy    | 769 |

| audits, the installation of energy efficiency insulation,        | 770 |
|--|-----|
| appliances, and windows, and other weatherization measures.      | 771 |
| (ii) No energy efficiency or peak demand reduction               | 772 |
| achieved under divisions (A)(2)(d)(i)(IV) and (V), and (VI) of   | 773 |
| this section shall qualify for shared savings.                   | 774 |
| (iii) Division (A)(2)(c) of this section shall be applied        | 775 |
| to include facilitating efforts by a mercantile customer or      | 776 |
| group of those customers to offer customer-sited demand-         | 777 |
| response, energy efficiency, including waste energy recovery and | 778 |
| combined heat and power, or peak demand reduction capabilities   | 779 |
| to the electric distribution utility as part of a reasonable     | 780 |
| arrangement submitted to the commission pursuant to section      | 781 |
| 4905.31 of the Revised Code.                                     | 782 |
| (e) No programs or improvements described in division (A)        | 783 |
| (2)(d) of this section shall conflict with any statewide         | 784 |
| building code adopted by the board of building standards.        | 785 |
| (B) In accordance with rules it shall adopt, the public          | 786 |
| utilities commission shall produce and docket at the commission  | 787 |
| an annual report, based on the information reported under        | 788 |
| section 4928.6620 of the Revised Code and any other information  | 789 |
| that is public, containing the results of its verification of    | 790 |
| the annual levels of energy efficiency and of peak demand        | 791 |
| reductions achieved by each electric distribution utility        | 792 |
| pursuant to division (A) of this section. A copy of the report   | 793 |
| shall be provided to the consumers' counsel.                     | 794 |
| (C) If the commission determines, after notice and               | 795 |
| opportunity for hearing and based upon its report under division | 796 |
| (B) of this section, that an electric distribution utility has   | 797 |
| failed to comply with an energy efficiency or peak demand        | 798 |

| reduction requirement <del>of </del> for years 2016, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, | 799 |
|--|-----|
| 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, or 2027, as applicable, under division               | 800 |
| (A) of this section, the commission shall assess a forfeiture on             | 801 |
| the utility as provided under sections 4905.55 to 4905.60 and                | 802 |
| 4905.64 of the Revised Code, either in the amount, per day per               | 803 |
| undercompliance or noncompliance, relative to the period of the              | 804 |
| report, equal to that prescribed for noncompliances under                    | 805 |
| section 4905.54 of the Revised Code, or in an amount equal to                | 806 |
| the then existing market value of one renewable energy credit                | 807 |
| per megawatt hour of undercompliance or noncompliance. Revenue               | 808 |
| from any forfeiture assessed under this division shall be                    | 809 |
| deposited to the credit of the advanced energy fund created                  | 810 |
| under section 4928.61 of the Revised Code.                                   | 811 |

- (D) The commission may establish rules regarding the 812 content of an application by an electric distribution utility 813 for commission approval of a revenue decoupling mechanism under 814 this division. Such an application shall not be considered an 815 application to increase rates and may be included as part of a 816 proposal to establish, continue, or expand energy efficiency or 817 conservation programs. The commission by order may approve an 818 application under this division if it determines both that the 819 revenue decoupling mechanism provides for the recovery of 820 revenue that otherwise may be forgone by the utility as a result 821 of or in connection with the implementation by the electric 822 distribution utility of any energy efficiency or energy 823 conservation programs and reasonably aligns the interests of the 824 utility and of its customers in favor of those programs. 825
- (E) The commission additionally shall adopt rules that 826 require an electric distribution utility to provide a customer 827 upon request with two years' consumption data in an accessible 828 form. 829

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- Sec. 4928.662. For the purpose of measuring and

  determining compliance with the energy efficiency and peak

  demand reduction requirements under section 4928.66 of the

  Revised Code, the public utilities commission shall count and

  recognize compliance as follows:

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- (A) Energy efficiency savings and peak demand reduction 835 achieved through actions taken by customers or through electric 836 distribution utility programs that comply with federal standards 837 for either or both energy efficiency and peak demand reduction 838 839 requirements, including resources associated with such savings or reduction that are recognized as capacity resources by the 840 regional transmission organization operating in Ohio in 841 compliance with section 4928.12 of the Revised Code, shall count 842 toward compliance with the energy efficiency and peak demand 843 reduction requirements. 844
- (B) Energy efficiency savings and peak demand reduction achieved on and after the effective date of S.B. 310 of the 130th general assembly, September 12, 2014, shall be measured on the higher of an as found or deemed basis, except that, solely at the option of the electric distribution utility, such savings and reduction achieved since 2006 may also be measured using this method. For new construction, the energy efficiency savings and peak demand reduction shall be counted based on 2008 federal standards, provided that when new construction replaces an existing facility, the difference in energy consumed, energy intensity, and peak demand between the new and replaced facility shall be counted toward meeting the energy efficiency and peak demand reduction requirements.
- (C) The commission shall count both the energy efficiency savings and peak demand reduction on an annualized basis.

| (D) The commission shall count both the energy efficiency        | 860 |
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| savings and peak demand reduction on a gross savings basis.      | 861 |
| (E) The commission shall count energy efficiency savings         | 862 |
| and peak demand reductions associated with transmission and      | 863 |
| distribution infrastructure improvements that reduce line losses | 864 |
| and with energy intensity reductions resulting from heat rate    | 865 |
| improvements at electric generating plants. No energy efficiency | 866 |
| or peak demand reduction achieved under division (E) of this     | 867 |
| section shall qualify for shared savings.                        | 868 |
| (F) Energy efficiency savings and peak demand reduction          | 869 |
| amounts approved by the commission shall continue to be counted  | 870 |
| toward achieving the energy efficiency and peak demand reduction | 871 |
| requirements as long as the requirements remain in effect.       | 872 |
| (G) - Any energy efficiency savings or peak demand reduction-    | 873 |
| amount achieved in excess of the requirements may, at the        | 874 |
| discretion of the electric distribution utility, be banked and   | 875 |
| applied toward achieving the energy efficiency or peak demand-   | 876 |
| reduction requirements in future years The commission shall      | 877 |
| recognize and count energy efficiency savings and peak demand    | 878 |
| reductions that occur as a consequence of consumer reductions in | 879 |
| water usage or reductions and improvements in wastewater         | 880 |
| <pre>treatment.</pre>  | 881 |
| (H) The commission shall recognize and count, on a               | 882 |
| British-thermal-unit-equivalent basis, nonelectric energy        | 883 |
| efficiency savings or nonelectric peak demand reductions that    | 884 |
| occur as a consequence of a portfolio plan, as defined in        | 885 |
| section 4928.6610 of the Revised Code.                           | 886 |
| (I) The commission shall recognize and count, as energy          | 887 |
| efficiency savings and peak demand reduction, the savings and    | 888 |

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|---|------------|
| <pre>with the following:</pre>  | 916        |
| (a) Raw water collection, purification, treatment, and storage;                     | 917<br>918 |
|   |            |
| (b) Establishing or maintaining pressure to balance water supply and demand;        | 919<br>920 |
| (c) Water delivery and transfer.  | 921        |
| (3) "Water treatment function" means any of the                                     | 922        |
| preliminary, secondary, tertiary, and advanced activities,                          | 923        |
| whether physical, biological, or chemical, associated with the                      | 924        |
| removal of contaminants from, or conditioning of, wastewater                        | 925        |
| prior to its return to the environment or recycled use.                             | 926        |
| Sec. 4928.6610. As used in sections 4928.6611 to 4928.6616                          | 927        |
| of the Revised Code:  | 928        |
| (A) "Customer" means any either of the following:                                   | 929        |
| (1) A mercantile customer of an electric distribution                               | 930        |
| utility;  | 931        |
| (2) Any customer of an electric distribution utility to                             | 932        |
| which either of the following applies:  | 933        |
| (1) (a) The customer receives service above the primary                             | 934        |
| voltage level as determined by the utility's tariff                                 | 935        |
| classification.   | 936        |
| (2) (b) The customer is a commercial or industrial                                  | 937        |
| customer to which both of the following apply:                                      | 938        |
| (a) (i) The customer receives electricity through a meter                           | 939        |
| of an end user or through more than one meter at a single                           | 940        |
| location in a quantity that exceeds forty-five million kilowatt                     | 941        |
| hours of electricity for the preceding calendar year.                               | 942        |

| (b) (ii) The customer has made a written request for             | 943 |
|--|-----|
| registration as a self-assessing purchaser pursuant to section   | 944 |
| 5727.81 of the Revised Code.                                     | 945 |
| (B) "Energy intensity" means the amount of energy, from          | 946 |
| electricity, used or consumed per unit of production to produce  | 947 |
| a certain level of output or activity, measured by the quantity  | 948 |
| of energy needed to perform a particular activity, expressed as  | 949 |
| energy per unit of output, energy per unit of gross total floor  | 950 |
| space, or an activity measure of service.                        | 951 |
| (C) "Portfolio plan" means the comprehensive energy              | 952 |
| efficiency and peak-demand reduction program portfolio plan      | 953 |
| required under rules adopted by the public utilities commission  | 954 |
| and codified in Chapter 4901:1-39 of the Administrative Code or  | 955 |
| hereafter recodified or amended.                                 | 956 |
| Sec. 4928.6620. (A) Every electric distribution utility          | 957 |
| and electric services company shall submit an annual report for  | 958 |
| the prior calendar year to the public utilities commission not   | 959 |
| later than the first day of July of each year. The report shall  | 960 |
| detail the utility's or company's status of compliance with the  | 961 |
| provisions of sections 4928.64 and 4928.66 of the Revised Code,  | 962 |
| as applicable. The commission shall modify its rules in          | 963 |
| accordance with the reporting requirement, including the filing  | 964 |
| date, set forth in this section.                                 | 965 |
| (B) The commission shall submit a report to the general          | 966 |
| assembly not later than the first day of August of each year and | 967 |
| in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised Code. The       | 968 |
| report shall detail all of the following:                        | 969 |
| (1) The compliance of electric distribution utilities and        | 970 |
| electric services companies with sections 4928.64 and 4928.66 of | 971 |

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| (1) "Qualified energy project" means an energy project           | 1001               |
|--|--------------------|
| certified by the director of development services pursuant to    | 1002               |
| this section.  | 1003               |
| (2) "Energy project" means a project to provide electric         | 1004               |
| power through the construction, installation, and use of an      | 1005               |
| energy facility.   | 1006               |
| energy raterity.   | 1000               |
| (3) "Alternative energy zone" means a county declared as         | 1007               |
| such by the board of county commissioners under division (E)(1)  | 1008               |
| (b) or (c) of this section.                                      | 1009               |
| (4) "Full-time equivalent employee" means the total number       | 1010               |
| of employee-hours for which compensation was paid to individuals | 1011               |
| employed at a qualified energy project for services performed at | 1012               |
| the project during the calendar year divided by two thousand     | 1013               |
| eighty hours.  | 1014               |
| (E) #0.1   | 1015               |
| (5) "Solar energy project" means an energy project               | 1015               |
| composed of an energy facility using solar panels to generate    | 1016               |
| electricity.   | 1017               |
| (B)(1) Tangible personal property of a qualified energy          | 1018               |
| project using renewable energy resources is exempt from taxation | 1019               |
| for tax years 2011 through 2021 if all of the following          | 1020               |
| conditions are satisfied:  | 1021               |
| (a) On or before December 31, 2020, the owner or a lessee        | 1022               |
| pursuant to a sale and leaseback transaction of the project      | 1023               |
| submits an application to the power siting board for a           | 1024               |
| certificate under section 4906.20 of the Revised Code, or if     | 1025               |
| that section does not apply, submits an application for any      | 1026               |
| approval, consent, permit, or certificate or satisfies any       | 1027               |
| condition required by a public agency or political subdivision   | 1028               |
| of this state for the construction or initial operation of an    | 1029               |
|  | - · · <del>-</del> |

energy project.

(b) Construction or installation of the energy facility

begins on or after January 1, 2009, and before January 1, 2021.

For the purposes of this division, construction begins on the

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earlier of the date of application for a certificate or other

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approval or permit described in division (B)(1)(a) of this

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section, or the date the contract for the construction or

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installation of the energy facility is entered into.

- (c) For a qualified energy project with a nameplate 1038 capacity of five megawatts or greater, a board of county 1039 commissioners of a county in which property of the project is 1040 located has adopted a resolution under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) 1041 of this section to approve the application submitted under 1042 division (E) of this section to exempt the property located in 1043 that county from taxation. A board's adoption of a resolution 1044 rejecting an application or its failure to adopt a resolution 1045 approving the application does not affect the tax-exempt status 1046 of the qualified energy project's property that is located in 1047 1048 another county.
- (2) If tangible personal property of a qualified energy 1049 project using renewable energy resources was exempt from 1050 taxation under this section beginning in any of tax years 2011 1051 through 2021, and the certification under division (E)(2) of 1052 this section has not been revoked, the tangible personal 1053 property of the qualified energy project is exempt from taxation 1054 for tax year 2022 and all ensuing tax years if the property was 1055 placed into service before January 1, 2022, as certified in the 1056 construction progress report required under division (F)(2) of 1057 this section. Tangible personal property that has not been 1058 placed into service before that date is taxable property subject 1059

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| to taxation. An energy project for which certification has been | 1060 |
|---|------|
| revoked is ineligible for further exemption under this section. | 1061 |
| Revocation does not affect the tax-exempt status of the         | 1062 |
| project's tangible personal property for the tax year in which  | 1063 |
| revocation occurs or any prior tax year.                        | 1064 |
|   |      |
| (C) Tangible personal property of a qualified energy            | 1065 |
| project using clean coal technology, advanced nuclear           | 1066 |
| technology, or cogeneration technology is exempt from taxation  | 1067 |

- project using clean coal technology, advanced nuclear technology, or cogeneration technology is exempt from taxation for the first tax year that the property would be listed for taxation and all subsequent years if all of the following circumstances are met:
- (1) The property was placed into service before January 1, 1071 2021. Tangible personal property that has not been placed into 1072 service before that date is taxable property subject to 1073 taxation.
- (2) For such a qualified energy project with a nameplate 1075 capacity of five megawatts or greater, a board of county 1076 commissioners of a county in which property of the qualified 1077 energy project is located has adopted a resolution under 1078 division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of this section to approve the 1079 application submitted under division (E) of this section to 1080 exempt the property located in that county from taxation. A 1081 board's adoption of a resolution rejecting the application or 1082 its failure to adopt a resolution approving the application does 1083 not affect the tax-exempt status of the qualified energy 1084 project's property that is located in another county. 1085
- (3) The certification for the qualified energy project 1086 issued under division (E)(2) of this section has not been 1087 revoked. An energy project for which certification has been 1088 revoked is ineligible for exemption under this section. 1089

| Revocation does not affect the tax-exempt status of the          | 1090 |
|--|------|
| project's tangible personal property for the tax year in which   | 1091 |
| revocation occurs or any prior tax year.                         | 1092 |
| (D) Except as otherwise provided in this section, real           | 1093 |
| property of a qualified energy project is exempt from taxation   | 1094 |
| for any tax year for which the tangible personal property of the | 1095 |
| qualified energy project is exempted under this section.         | 1096 |
| (E)(1)(a) A person may apply to the director of                  | 1097 |
| development services for certification of an energy project as a | 1098 |
| qualified energy project on or before the following dates:       | 1099 |
| (i) December 31, 2020, for an energy project using               | 1100 |
| renewable energy resources;                                      | 1101 |
| (ii) December 31, 2017, for an energy project using clean        | 1102 |
| coal technology, advanced nuclear technology, or cogeneration    | 1103 |
| technology.  | 1104 |
| (b) The director shall forward a copy of each application        | 1105 |
| for certification of an energy project with a nameplate capacity | 1106 |
| of five megawatts or greater to the board of county              | 1107 |
| commissioners of each county in which the project is located and | 1108 |
| to each taxing unit with territory located in each of the        | 1109 |
| affected counties. Any board that receives from the director a   | 1110 |
| copy of an application submitted under this division shall adopt | 1111 |
| a resolution approving or rejecting the application unless it    | 1112 |
| has adopted a resolution under division (E)(1)(c) of this        | 1113 |
| section. A resolution adopted under division (E)(1)(b) or (c) of | 1114 |
| this section may require an annual service payment to be made in | 1115 |
| addition to the service payment required under division (G) of   | 1116 |
| this section. The sum of the service payment required in the     | 1117 |

resolution and the service payment required under division (G)

1145

| of this section shall not exceed nine thousand dollars per       | 1119 |
|--|------|
| megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county. The        | 1120 |
| resolution shall specify the time and manner in which the        | 1121 |
| payments required by the resolution shall be paid to the county  | 1122 |
| treasurer. The county treasurer shall deposit the payment to the | 1123 |
| credit of the county's general fund to be used for any purpose   | 1124 |
| for which money credited to that fund may be used.               | 1125 |
| The board shall send copies of the resolution by certified       | 1126 |
| mail to the owner of the facility and the director within thirty | 1127 |
| days after receipt of the application, or a longer period of     | 1128 |
| time if authorized by the director.                              | 1129 |
| (c) A board of county commissioners may adopt a resolution       | 1130 |
| declaring the county to be an alternative energy zone and        | 1131 |
| declaring all applications submitted to the director of          | 1132 |
| development services under this division after the adoption of   | 1133 |
| the resolution, and prior to its repeal, to be approved by the   | 1134 |
| board.   | 1135 |
| All tangible personal property and real property of an           | 1136 |
| energy project with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or    | 1137 |
| greater is taxable if it is located in a county in which the     | 1138 |
| board of county commissioners adopted a resolution rejecting the | 1139 |
| application submitted under this division or failed to adopt a   | 1140 |
| resolution approving the application under division (E)(1)(b) or | 1141 |
| (c) of this section.   | 1142 |
| (2) The director shall certify an energy project if all of       | 1143 |

- the following circumstances exist:
  - (a) The application was timely submitted.
- (b) For an energy project with a nameplate capacity of 1146 five megawatts or greater, a board of county commissioners of at 1147

1176

| least one county in which the project is located has adopted a   | 1148 |
|--|------|
| resolution approving the application under division (E)(1)(b) or | 1149 |
| (c) of this section.   | 1150 |
| (c) No portion of the project's facility was used to             | 1151 |
| supply electricity before December 31, 2009.                     | 1152 |
| (3) The director shall deny a certification application if       | 1153 |
| the director determines the person has failed to comply with any | 1154 |
| requirement under this section. The director may revoke a        | 1155 |
| certification if the director determines the person, or          | 1156 |
| subsequent owner or lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback      | 1157 |
| transaction of the qualified energy project, has failed to       | 1158 |
| comply with any requirement under this section. Upon             | 1159 |
| certification or revocation, the director shall notify the       | 1160 |
| person, owner, or lessee, the tax commissioner, and the county   | 1161 |
| auditor of a county in which the project is located of the       | 1162 |
| certification or revocation. Notice shall be provided in a       | 1163 |
| manner convenient to the director.                               | 1164 |
| (F) The owner or a lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback       | 1165 |
| transaction of a qualified energy project shall do each of the   | 1166 |
| following:   | 1167 |
| (1) Comply with all applicable regulations;                      | 1168 |
| (2) File with the director of development services a             | 1169 |
| certified construction progress report before the first day of   | 1170 |
| March of each year during the energy facility's construction or  | 1171 |
| installation indicating the percentage of the project completed, | 1172 |
| and the project's nameplate capacity, as of the preceding        | 1173 |
| thirty-first day of December. Unless otherwise instructed by the | 1174 |

director of development services, the owner or lessee of an

energy project shall file a report with the director on or

before the first day of March each year after completion of the 1177 energy facility's construction or installation indicating the 1178 project's nameplate capacity as of the preceding thirty-first 1179 day of December. Not later than sixty days after June 17, 2010, 1180 the owner or lessee of an energy project, the construction of 1181 which was completed before June 17, 2010, shall file a 1182 certificate indicating the project's nameplate capacity. 1183

- (3) File with the director of development services, in a 1184 manner prescribed by the director, a report of the total number 1185 of full-time equivalent employees, and the total number of full-time equivalent employees domiciled in Ohio, who are employed in 1187 the construction or installation of the energy facility; 1188
- (4) For energy projects with a nameplate capacity of five 1189 megawatts or greater, repair all roads, bridges, and culverts 1190 affected by construction as reasonably required to restore them 1191 to their preconstruction condition, as determined by the county 1192 engineer in consultation with the local jurisdiction responsible 1193 for the roads, bridges, and culverts. In the event that the 1194 county engineer deems any road, bridge, or culvert to be 1195 inadequate to support the construction or decommissioning of the 1196 energy facility, the road, bridge, or culvert shall be rebuilt 1197 or reinforced to the specifications established by the county 1198 engineer prior to the construction or decommissioning of the 1199 facility. The owner or lessee of the facility shall post a bond 1200 in an amount established by the county engineer and to be held 1201 by the board of county commissioners to ensure funding for 1202 repairs of roads, bridges, and culverts affected during the 1203 construction. The bond shall be released by the board not later 1204 than one year after the date the repairs are completed. The 1205 energy facility owner or lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback 1206 transaction shall post a bond, as may be required by the Ohio 1207

| power siting board in the certificate authorizing commencement   | 1208 |
|--|------|
| of construction issued pursuant to section 4906.10 of the        | 1209 |
| Revised Code, to ensure funding for repairs to roads, bridges,   | 1210 |
| and culverts resulting from decommissioning of the facility. The | 1211 |
| energy facility owner or lessee and the county engineer may      | 1212 |
| enter into an agreement regarding specific transportation plans, | 1213 |
| reinforcements, modifications, use and repair of roads,          | 1214 |
| financial security to be provided, and any other relevant issue. | 1215 |

- (5) Provide or facilitate training for fire and emergency 1216 responders for response to emergency situations related to the 1217 energy project and, for energy projects with a nameplate 1218 capacity of five megawatts or greater, at the person's expense, 1219 equip the fire and emergency responders with proper equipment as 1220 reasonably required to enable them to respond to such emergency 1221 situations; 1222
- (6) Maintain a ratio of Ohio-domiciled full-time 1223 equivalent employees employed in the construction or 1224 installation of the energy project to total full-time equivalent 1225 employees employed in the construction or installation of the 1226 energy project of not less than eighty per cent in the case of a 1227 solar energy project, and not less than fifty per cent in the 1228 case of any other energy project. In the case of an energy 1229 project for which certification from the power siting board is 1230 required under section 4906.20 of the Revised Code, the number 1231 of full-time equivalent employees employed in the construction 1232 or installation of the energy project equals the number actually 1233 employed or the number projected to be employed in the 1234 certificate application, if such projection is required under 1235 regulations adopted pursuant to section 4906.03 of the Revised 1236 Code, whichever is greater. For all other energy projects, the 1237 number of full-time equivalent employees employed in the 1238

| construction or installation of the energy project equals the   | 1239 |
|---|------|
| number actually employed or the number projected to be employed | 1240 |
| by the director of development services, whichever is greater.  | 1241 |
| To estimate the number of employees to be employed in the       | 1242 |
| construction or installation of an energy project, the director | 1243 |
| shall use a generally accepted job-estimating model in use for  | 1244 |
| renewable energy projects, including but not limited to the job | 1245 |
| and economic development impact model. The director may adjust  | 1246 |
| an estimate produced by a model to account for variables not    | 1247 |
| accounted for by the model.                                     | 1248 |

- (7) For energy projects with a nameplate capacity in 1249 excess of two megawatts, establish a relationship with a member 1250 of the university system of Ohio as defined in section 3345.011 1251 of the Revised Code or with a person offering an apprenticeship 1252 program registered with the employment and training 1253 administration within the United States department of labor or 1254 with the apprenticeship council created by section 4139.02 of 1255 the Revised Code, to educate and train individuals for careers 1256 in the wind or solar energy industry. The relationship may 1257 include endowments, cooperative programs, internships, 1258 apprenticeships, research and development projects, and 1259 curriculum development. 1260
- (8) Offer to sell power or renewable energy credits from 1261 the energy project to electric distribution utilities or 1262 electric service companies subject to renewable energy resource 1263 requirements provisions under section 4928.64 of the Revised 1264 Code that have issued requests for proposal for such power or 1265 renewable energy credits. If no electric distribution utility or 1266 electric service company issues a request for proposal on or 1267 before December 31, 2010, or accepts an offer for power or 1268 renewable energy credits within forty-five days after the offer 1269

| is submitted, power or renewable energy credits from the energy  | 1270 |
|--|------|
| project may be sold to other persons. Division (F)(8) of this    | 1271 |
| section does not apply if:                                       | 1272 |
| (a) The owner or lessee is a rural electric company or a         | 1273 |
| municipal power agency as defined in section 3734.058 of the     | 1274 |
| Revised Code.  | 1275 |
| (b) The owner or lessee is a person that, before                 | 1276 |
| completion of the energy project, contracted for the sale of     | 1277 |
| power or renewable energy credits with a rural electric company  | 1278 |
| or a municipal power agency.                                     | 1279 |
| (c) The owner or lessee contracts for the sale of power or       | 1280 |
| renewable energy credits from the energy project before June 17, | 1281 |
| 2010.  | 1282 |
| (9) Make annual service payments as required by division         | 1283 |
| (G) of this section and as may be required in a resolution       | 1284 |
| adopted by a board of county commissioners under division (E) of | 1285 |
| this section.  | 1286 |
| (G) The owner or a lessee pursuant to a sale and leaseback       | 1287 |
| transaction of a qualified energy project shall make annual      | 1288 |
| service payments in lieu of taxes to the county treasurer on or  | 1289 |
| before the final dates for payments of taxes on public utility   | 1290 |
| personal property on the real and public utility personal        | 1291 |
| property tax list for each tax year for which property of the    | 1292 |
| energy project is exempt from taxation under this section. The   | 1293 |
| county treasurer shall allocate the payment on the basis of the  | 1294 |
| project's physical location. Upon receipt of a payment, or if    | 1295 |
| timely payment has not been received, the county treasurer shall | 1296 |
| certify such receipt or non-receipt to the director of           | 1297 |
| development services and tay commissioner in a form determined   | 1298 |

| by the director and commissioner, respectively. Each payment     | 1299 |
|--|------|
| shall be in the following amount:                                | 1300 |
| (1) In the case of a solar energy project, seven thousand        | 1301 |
| dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county | 1302 |
| as of December 31, 2010, for tax year 2011, as of December 31,   | 1303 |
| 2011, for tax year 2012, as of December 31, 2012, for tax year   | 1304 |
| 2013, as of December 31, 2013, for tax year 2014, as of December | 1305 |
| 31, 2014, for tax year 2015, as of December 31, 2015, for tax    | 1306 |
| year 2016, and as of December 31, 2016, for tax year 2017 and    | 1307 |
| each tax year thereafter;  | 1308 |
| (2) In the case of any other energy project using                | 1309 |
| renewable energy resources, the following:                       | 1310 |
| (a) If the project maintains during the construction or          | 1311 |
| installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled    | 1312 |
| full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent     | 1313 |
| employees of not less than seventy-five per cent, six thousand   | 1314 |
| dollars per megawatt of nameplate capacity located in the county | 1315 |
| as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding tax      | 1316 |
| year;  | 1317 |
| (b) If the project maintains during the construction or          | 1318 |
| installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled    | 1319 |
| full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent     | 1320 |
| employees of less than seventy-five per cent but not less than   | 1321 |
| sixty per cent, seven thousand dollars per megawatt of nameplate | 1322 |
| capacity located in the county as of the thirty-first day of     | 1323 |
| December of the preceding tax year;                              | 1324 |
| (c) If the project maintains during the construction or          | 1325 |
| installation of the energy facility a ratio of Ohio-domiciled    | 1326 |
| full-time equivalent employees to total full-time equivalent     | 1327 |

| the application on or before January 1, 2015, the plan shall be  | 1386 |
|--|------|
| deemed approved as amended in the application and shall take     | 1387 |
| effect on January 1, 2015, and expire on December 31, 2016.      | 1388 |
| (2) Section 4928.66 of the Revised Code, as amended by           | 1389 |
| this act Sub. S.B. 310 of the 130th General Assembly, shall      | 1390 |
| apply to an electric distribution utility that applies to amend  | 1391 |
| its portfolio plan under division (B) of this section.           | 1392 |
| (C) If an electric distribution utility fails to file an         | 1393 |
| application to amend its portfolio plan under division (B) of    | 1394 |
| this section within the required thirty-day period, the electric | 1395 |
| distribution utility shall proceed in accordance with division   | 1396 |
| (A) (1) of this section.   | 1397 |
| (D) If an electric distribution utility implements its           | 1398 |
| portfolio plan under division (A)(1) of this section for the     | 1399 |
| plan's original duration and if the plan expires before December | 1400 |
| 31, 2016, the Commission shall automatically extend the plan     | 1401 |
| through December 31, 2016, with no amendments to the plan.       | 1402 |
| (E)(1) The provisions of section 4928.66 of the Revised          | 1403 |
| Code, as it existed prior to the effective date of this section  | 1404 |
| September 12, 2014, shall apply to an electric distribution      | 1405 |
| utility that has a portfolio plan that is implemented under      | 1406 |
| division (A)(1) of this section for either of the following time | 1407 |
| periods:   | 1408 |
| (a) The plan's original duration;                                | 1409 |
| (b) The plan's original duration and then, until December        | 1410 |
| 31, 2016, if the plan is extended under division (D) of this     | 1411 |
| section.   | 1412 |
| (2) Beginning January 1, 2017, the provisions of section         | 1413 |
| 4928.66 of the Revised Code as amended by this act Sub. S.B. 310 | 1414 |

| of the 130th General Assembly shall apply to the electric        | 1415    |
|--|---------|
| distribution utility through the date that is the day before the | 1416    |
| provisions of that section, as amended by H.B. 554 of the 131st  | 1417    |
| General Assembly, take effect.                                   | 1418    |
| (3) The provisions of section 4928.66 of the Revised Code,       | 1419    |
| as amended by H.B. 554 of the 131st General Assembly, shall      | 1420    |
| apply to the electric distribution utility beginning on the      | 1421    |
| effective date of the amendments to that section by that act.    | 1422    |
| Section 4. That existing Section 6 of Sub. S.B. 310 of the       | 1423    |
| 130th General Assembly is hereby repealed.                       | 1424    |
| Section 5. (A) In 2017, the Public Utilities Commission          | 1425    |
| shall review an electric distribution utility's or electric      | 1426    |
| services company's compliance with the benchmarks for 2016 under | 1427    |
| division (B)(2) of section 4928.64 of the Revised Code as that   | 1428    |
| division existed prior to the effective date of this section,    | 1429    |
| and in the course of that review, shall identify any             | 1430    |
| undercompliance or noncompliance of the utility or company that  | 1431    |
| it determines is weather-related, related to equipment or        | 1432    |
| resource shortages for qualifying renewable energy resources as  | 1433    |
| applicable, or is otherwise outside the utility's or company's   | 1434    |
| control.   | 1435    |
| (B) Subject to the cost cap provisions of division (C)(3)        | 1436    |
| of section 4928.64 of the Revised Code, if the commission        | 1437    |
| determines, after notice and opportunity for hearing, and based  | 1438    |
| upon its findings in the review under division (A) of this       | 1439    |
| section regarding avoidable undercompliance or noncompliance,    | 1440    |
| but subject to the force-majeure provisions of division (C)(4)   | 1441    |
| (a) of section 4928.64 of the Revised Code, that the utility or  | 1442    |
| company has failed to comply with the benchmarks for 2016, the   | 1443    |
| commission shall impose a renewable energy compliance payment on | 1 4 4 4 |

Sub. H. B. No. 554

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| Sub. H. B. No. 554<br>As Reported by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee | Page 51 |
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| applying for any waivers that are needed from the United States                        | 1473    |
| Department of Health and Human Services and any other applicable                       | 1474    |
| federal agencies to secure and execute this allocation.                                | 1475    |
| Section 8. That existing Section 257.80 of Am. Sub. H.B.                               | 1476    |
| 64 of the 131st General Assembly is hereby repealed.                                   | 1477    |
| Section 9. Sections 7 and 8 of this act take effect June                               | 1478    |
| 30, 2017.  | 1479    |