
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BIOFUELS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the renewable energy
2 facility siting process serves to encourage the expeditious
3 permitting and development of renewable energy facilities in
4 Hawaii. The renewable energy facility siting process
5 accomplishes this by coordinating the relevant state and county
6 permitting agencies and collecting fees from permit applicants
7 to reimburse state and county agency costs to process the
8 necessary project permits within twelve months following final
9 acceptance of the environmental impact statements required under
10 chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes. To date, only one project
11 has utilized the renewable energy facility siting process.
12 However, at least four other projects statewide have applied
13 for, or intend to apply for, participation in the renewable
14 energy facility siting process. Many other developers and
15 government agencies have expressed interest in the renewable
16 energy facility siting process.

17 To help meet the State's clean energy goals, its utilities
18 will need adequate infrastructure in place to transport,



1 distribute, and store large amounts of biofuels in Hawaii
2 including inter-island transport. Facilitating the permitting
3 of such infrastructure will enable the State's utilities to
4 immediately increase their biofuel demand, which in turn should
5 encourage more supply from local biofuel producers.

6 Currently, only biofuel producers with capacity to produce
7 one million gallons or more of biofuel annually are eligible for
8 the renewable energy facility siting process. Due to emerging
9 biofuel technologies, most biofuel projects currently under
10 development or planning in Hawaii are small scale, pilot
11 projects, some with capacity to produce only one hundred
12 thousand gallons or more annually. The success of these pilot
13 facilities is critical to Hawaii's clean energy independence as
14 they are a precursor to the demonstration and commercial scale
15 phases of development.

16 The inclusion of biofuel production facilities and biofuel
17 distribution infrastructure with the capacity to produce or
18 distribute one hundred thousand gallons or more of biofuel
19 annually will further the State's interest in reducing Hawaii's
20 over-dependence on imported fossil fuels and meet Hawaii's
21 energy self-sufficiency goals and mandates, and will encourage
22 the timely development of renewable energy projects that utilize



1 Hawaii's indigenous renewable energy resources for the health,
2 safety, and welfare of the residents of Hawaii.

3 The purpose of this Act is to expand the applicability of
4 the renewable energy facility siting process to include biofuel
5 production facilities and distribution infrastructure with
6 capacity to produce or distribute one hundred thousand gallons
7 or more of biofuel annually.

8 SECTION 2. Section 201N-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended by amending the definition of "renewable energy
10 facility" or "facility" to read as follows:

11 "Renewable energy facility" or "facility" means a new
12 facility located in the State with the capacity to produce from
13 renewable energy at least two hundred megawatts of electricity;
14 provided that an electricity production facility with a
15 capability between five megawatts and one hundred ninety-nine
16 megawatts of electricity and a biofuel production facility or
17 distribution infrastructure with a capacity to produce or
18 distribute one ~~[million]~~ hundred thousand gallons or more
19 annually may apply to the coordinator for designation as a
20 renewable energy facility. The term includes any of the
21 following associated with the initial permitting and
22 construction of the facility:



- 1 (1) The land parcel on which the facility is situated;
- 2 (2) Any renewable energy production structure or
- 3 equipment;
- 4 (3) Any energy transmission line from the facility to a
- 5 public utility's electricity transmission or
- 6 distribution system;
- 7 (4) Any on-site infrastructure; and
- 8 (5) Any on-site building, structure, other improvement, or
- 9 equipment necessary for the production of electricity
- 10 or biofuel from the renewable energy site,
- 11 transmission of the electricity or biofuel, or any
- 12 accommodation for employees of the facility."

13 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Renewable Energy Facility Siting Process

Description:

Modifies the renewable energy facility siting process to include biofuel production facilities and distribution infrastructure with capacity to produce or distribute one hundred thousand gallons or more of biofuel annually. (HD1)

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