

ACT 140

S.B. NO. 2283

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Hawaii Hydrogen Strategic Plan.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. (a) The Hawaii natural energy institute shall conduct a study to examine the potential for the production and use of renewable hydrogen in the State and the potential role of renewable hydrogen in achieving a local, affordable, reliable, and decarbonized energy system and economy. The study shall consider:

- (1) The feasibility of producing renewable hydrogen locally;
- (2) The power sources available for renewable hydrogen production and their relative costs;
- (3) Water usage needed for renewable hydrogen production;
- (4) The feasibility of storing renewable hydrogen and the safety considerations associated with renewable hydrogen production and storage;
- (5) Costs, benefits, and impacts compared to other fuel sources;

- (6) Potential end-user markets;
- (7) Permitting and regulatory hurdles, including infrastructure planning;
- (8) Use cases in which hydrogen would provide the most benefit, including considering power supply and transportation sectors;
- (9) The potential for locally produced renewable hydrogen as an export commodity or other revenue generating opportunity;
- (10) The technical feasibility, economic viability, and permitting requirements of local renewable hydrogen compared to the importation and distribution of bulk green hydrogen into the State from the United States and other countries; and
- (11) Other considerations deemed relevant and necessary.

(b) The results of the study shall be used to inform energy planning, which may include a Hawaii hydrogen strategic plan, decarbonization efforts, and other ongoing work being undertaken by the Hawaii state energy office.

(c) For the purposes of this section, “renewable hydrogen” means hydrogen produced entirely from renewable sources that have lifecycle emissions of no more than fifty grams of carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour.

SECTION 2. In conducting the study, the Hawaii natural energy institute shall, as appropriate, consult with the department of business, economic development, and tourism; Hawaii state energy office; public utilities commission; or any other applicable state or county agency. The Hawaii natural energy institute shall further consult with electric and gas utilities and other industry stakeholders, who are encouraged to cooperate and provide information or input.

SECTION 3. The Hawaii natural energy institute shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, from the study to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2024.

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

(Approved June 27, 2022.)