

Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Monday, the sixth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven

HOUSE BILL NO. 1133
(Natural Resources Committee)
(At the request of the Industrial Commission)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 54-17.5-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to evaluating applications for funding from the lignite research fund.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 54-17.5-03 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-17.5-03. Priority projects, processes, and activities. In evaluating applications for funding from the lignite research fund for North Dakota's lignite research, development, and marketing program, the industrial commission and lignite research council shall give priority to those projects, processes, or activities that will preserve existing jobs and production, which will create the greatest number of new jobs and most additional lignite production and economic growth potential in coal-producing counties or those counties with recoverable coal reserves, which will attract matching private industry investment equal to at least fifty percent or more of the total cost, and which will result in development and demonstration of a marketable lignite product or products with a high level of probability of ~~rapid~~ near term commercialization ~~by the year 2000 or before~~. For marketing applications, priority must be given to those projects, processes, or activities that develop baseline information, implement specific marketing strategies, and otherwise contribute to the effective marketing of lignite and its products ~~by the year 2000 or before~~. For reclamation applications, priority must be given to those projects, processes, or activities that will reduce unnecessary regulatory costs and assist in effectively reclaiming surface mined land to its original or better productivity as soon as possible. Any projects, activities, or processes selected by the commission for funding must achieve the priorities and purposes of the program, must have undergone technical review and be determined to have technical merit, must have generated matching private industry investment, and must have received a favorable lignite research council recommendation.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1133.

House Vote: Yeas 91 Nays 0 Absent 7

Senate Vote: Yeas 49 Nays 0 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 1997.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 1997.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1997,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State