

## Lignite Research Program amendment

**SECTION XX. LIGNITE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND MARKETING PROGRAM - LIGNITE MARKETING FEASIBILITY STUDY.** The amount of \$4,500,000 from the lignite research fund, or so much of the amount as may be necessary, may be used for the purpose of contracting for an independent, nonmatching lignite marketing feasibility study or studies that determine those focused priority areas where near-term, market-driven projects, activities, or processes will generate matching private industry investment and have the most potential of preserving existing lignite production and industry jobs or that will lead to increased development of lignite and its products and create new lignite industry jobs and economic growth for the general welfare of this state. Moneys appropriated pursuant to this section also may be used for the purpose of contracting for nonmatching studies and activities in support of the ~~lignite vision 21 program~~ advanced energy technology program and other pre-commercial technology development efforts; for litigation that may be necessary to protect and promote the continued development of lignite resources or to contest unconstitutional, state-driven energy mandates; for nonmatching externality studies and activities in externality proceedings; or other marketing, environmental, or transmission activities that assist with marketing of lignite-based electricity and lignite-based byproducts. Moneys needed for the purposes stated in this section are available to the industrial commission for funding projects, processes, or activities under the lignite research, development, and marketing program.

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## Oil and Gas Research Program amendment

**SECTION XX. EXEMPTION - OIL AND GAS TAX REVENUE ALLOCATIONS - OIL AND GAS RESEARCH FUND - PILOT PROJECT FOR UNDERGROUND GAS STORAGE.** 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 57-51.1-07.3 relating to the allocations to the oil and gas research fund, for the period beginning August 1, 2021, and ending July 31, 2023, the state treasurer shall deposit two percent of the oil and gas gross production tax and oil extraction tax revenues, up to \$16,000,000, into the oil and gas research fund before depositing oil and gas tax revenues under section 57-51.1-07.5. 2. Pursuant to the continuing appropriation in section 57-51.1-07.3, the industrial commission shall expend the remaining monies authorized in section 25 of chapter 14 of the 2019 Session Laws from the oil and gas research fund pursuant to the contract with the energy and environmental research center for pilot projects relating to the underground storage of produced natural gas. The pilot projects may include studies and demonstration projects. During the 2021-22 interim, the energy and environmental research center shall provide quarterly reports to the industrial commission and at least one report to the legislative management regarding the results and recommendations of the pilot project.