

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1258

(Representatives Brandenburg, Bosch, Grueneich, Hagert, Nathe, Porter, Headland, Kempenich)
(Senators Conley, Kessel, Patten, Wanzek)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 49-22-16 of the of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to energy conversion and transmission facility siting; and to provide for retroactive application.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 49-22-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. a. A certificate of site compatibility for an electric energy conversion facility may not supersede or preempt any local land use, zoning, or building rules, regulations, or ordinances and a site may not be designated which violates local land use, zoning, or building rules, regulations, or ordinances.

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- b. Except as provided in this section, a permit for the construction of an electric transmission facility within a designated corridor supersedes and preempts any local land use, or zoning, or building rule, regulation, or ordinance, upon a finding by the commission that the rule, regulation, or ordinance, as applied to the proposed route, is regulations.
- c. Before an electric transmission facility is approved, the commission shall require the applicant to comply with the road use agreements of the impacted political subdivision. A permit may supersede and preempt the requirements of a political subdivision if the applicant shows by a preponderance of the evidence the regulations or ordinances are unreasonably restrictive in view of existing technology, factors of cost or economics, or needs of consumers regardless of location. Without such a finding by the commission, a route may not be designated which violates a local land use, zoning, or building rule, regulation, or ordinance, or are in direct conflict with state or federal laws or rules.
- d. When an application for a certificate for an electric transmission facility is filed, the commission shall notify the townships with retained zoning authority, cities, and counties in which any part of the proposed corridor is located. The commission may not schedule a public hearing sooner than forty-five days from the date notification is sent by mail or electronic mail. Upon notification, a political subdivision shall provide a listing to the commission of all local requirements identified under this subsection. The listing of requirements must be filed at least ten days before the hearing or the requirements are superseded and preempted.
- e. An applicant must comply with all local requirements provided to the commission under subdivision d, which are not otherwise superseded by the commission.

SECTION 2. RETROACTIVE APPLICATION. This Act applies retroactively to January 1, 2025.

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 Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1258.

House Vote: Yeas 86 Nays 7 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 27 Nays 18 Absent 2

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2025,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State