

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

HOUSE BILL NO. 1279
(Representatives Novak, Berg, Hagert, Headland, J. Olson, S. Olson, Porter, Tveit)
(Senators Boehm, Patten, Thomas)

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 57-60-02, 57-60-02.1, 57-60-02.2, 57-60-14, and 57-61-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a partial exemption from the coal conversion facilities tax and the imposition of a lignite research tax, allocation of the coal conversion facilities privilege tax and the lignite research tax, and an exemption from the coal severance tax; to repeal section 57-60-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the exemption from the coal conversion facilities tax and the imposition of a lignite research tax; to provide an effective date; to provide a contingent effective date; and to provide an expiration date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 57-60-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-60-02. Imposition of taxes. (Effective ~~through~~after June 30, 2026, and through June 30, 2031)

There is hereby imposed upon the operator of each coal conversion facility a tax paid monthly for the privilege of producing products of such coal conversion facility. The rate of the tax must be computed as follows:

1. For all coal conversion facilities, except as otherwise provided in this section, the tax is measured by the gross receipts derived from the facility for the preceding month and is in the amount of two percent of its gross receipts. Gross receipts derived from the sale of a capital asset are not subject to the tax imposed by this subsection.
2. For electrical generating plants, the tax is at a rate of sixty-five one-hundredths of one mill times sixty percent of the installed capacity of each unit times the number of hours in the taxable period. All electrical energy generating units that begin construction or complete repowering are exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the unit. If a unit is incapable of generating electricity for eighteen consecutive months, the tax on that unit for taxable periods beginning after the eighteenth month must be reduced by the ratio that the cost of repair of the unit bears to the original cost of the unit. This reduced rate remains in effect until the unit is capable of generating electricity.
3. For electrical generating plants, in addition to the tax imposed by subsection 2, there is a tax at the rate of twenty-five one-hundredths of one mill on each kilowatt hour of electricity produced for the purpose of sale. For all electrical generating plants that begin construction or complete repowering, the production from the plants is exempt from the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the plant.
4. For coal gasification plants, the tax is the greater of either the amount provided in subsection 1 or thirteen and one-half cents on each one thousand cubic feet [28316.85 liters] of synthetic natural gas produced for the purpose of sale but not including any amount of synthetic natural gas in excess of one hundred ten million cubic feet per day.
5. For all coal conversion facilities, other than electrical generating plants, the production from the facilities is exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this section for a period

of five years from the date of first taxable production from the facility. The operator of each facility applying for exemption under this subsection shall certify to the tax commissioner the date of first taxable production of the facility.

6. For coal beneficiation plants, the tax is twenty cents on each ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms] of beneficiated coal produced for the purpose of sale, or one and one-quarter percent of the gross receipts derived from such facility for the preceding month, whichever amount is greater. Any amount of beneficiated coal produced in excess of eighty percent of the design capacity of the coal beneficiation plant or produced for use within a coal conversion facility is exempt from such tax.
7. With the exception of the tax imposed under subsection 3, the board of county commissioners, by resolution, may grant the operator of a plant or facility located within the county a partial or complete exemption from up to fifteen percent of the tax imposed under this section for a period not to extend past June 30, ~~2026~~2031. If a board of county commissioners grants a partial or complete exemption for a specific plant or facility under this subsection, subsection 2 of section 57-60-14 does not apply. Notwithstanding section 57-60-14, any tax collected from a plant or facility subject to the exemption provided by this subsection must be allocated entirely to the county for allocation as provided in section 57-60-15.

Imposition of taxes. (Effective after June 30, ~~2026~~2031) There is hereby imposed upon the operator of each coal conversion facility a tax paid monthly for the privilege of producing products of such coal conversion facility. The rate of the tax must be computed as follows:

1. For all coal conversion facilities, except as otherwise provided in this section, the tax is measured by the gross receipts derived from the facility for the preceding month and is in the amount of two percent of its gross receipts. Gross receipts derived from the sale of a capital asset are not subject to the tax imposed by this subsection.
2. For electrical generating plants, the tax is at a rate of sixty-five one-hundredths of one mill times sixty percent of the installed capacity of each unit times the number of hours in the taxable period. All electrical energy generating units that begin construction or complete repowering are exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the unit. The board of county commissioners may, by resolution, grant to the operator of an electrical generating plant located within the county partial or complete exemption from the remaining fifteen percent of the tax imposed by this subsection for a period not exceeding five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the unit. If a board of county commissioners grants a partial or complete exemption for a specific coal conversion facility under this subsection, the provisions of subsection 2 of section 57-60-14 do not apply as that subsection relates to revenue from the specific unit of the coal conversion facility for which the partial or complete exemption has been granted. Notwithstanding section 57-60-14, any tax collected from a unit subject to the exemption provided by this subsection must be allocated entirely to the county for allocation as provided in section 57-60-15. If a unit is incapable of generating electricity for eighteen consecutive months, the tax on that unit for taxable periods beginning after the eighteenth month must be reduced by the ratio that the cost of repair of the unit bears to the original cost of the unit. This reduced rate remains in effect until the unit is capable of generating electricity.
3. For electrical generating plants, in addition to the tax imposed by subsection 2, there is a tax at the rate of twenty-five one-hundredths of one mill on each kilowatt hour of electricity produced for the purpose of sale. For all electrical generating plants that begin construction or complete repowering, the production from the plants is exempt from the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the plant.

4. For coal gasification plants, the tax is the greater of either the amount provided in subsection 1 or thirteen and one-half cents on each one thousand cubic feet [28316.85 liters] of synthetic natural gas produced for the purpose of sale but not including any amount of synthetic natural gas in excess of one hundred ten million cubic feet per day.
5.
 - a. For all coal conversion facilities, other than electrical generating plants, the production from the facilities is exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this section for a period of five years from the date of first taxable production from the facility. The operator of each facility applying for exemption under this subsection shall certify to the tax commissioner the date of first taxable production of the facility.
 - b. The board of county commissioners may, by resolution, grant to the operator of a coal conversion facility, other than an electrical generating plant, located within the county a partial or complete exemption from the remaining fifteen percent of tax imposed by this section for a period not exceeding five years from the date of the first taxable production from the facility. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 57-60-14, any tax collected which is based upon the production of a facility subject to the exemption provided by this subsection must be allocated entirely to the county for allocation as provided in section 57-60-15.
6. For coal beneficiation plants, the tax is twenty cents on each ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms] of beneficiated coal produced for the purpose of sale, or one and one-quarter percent of the gross receipts derived from such facility for the preceding month, whichever amount is greater. Any amount of beneficiated coal produced in excess of eighty percent of the design capacity of the coal beneficiation plant or produced for use within a coal conversion facility is exempt from such tax.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 57-60-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-60-02. Imposition of taxes. ~~(Effective after June 30, 2026, and through June 30, 2031)~~

~~There is hereby imposed upon the operator of each coal conversion facility a tax paid monthly for the privilege of producing products of such coal conversion facility. The rate of the tax must be computed as follows:~~

- ~~1. For all coal conversion facilities, except as otherwise provided in this section, the tax is measured by the gross receipts derived from the facility for the preceding month and is in the amount of two percent of its gross receipts. Gross receipts derived from the sale of a capital asset are not subject to the tax imposed by this subsection.~~
- ~~2. For electrical generating plants, the tax is at a rate of sixty-five one-hundredths of one mill times sixty percent of the installed capacity of each unit times the number of hours in the taxable period. All electrical energy generating units that begin construction or complete repowering are exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the unit. If a unit is incapable of generating electricity for eighteen consecutive months, the tax on that unit for taxable periods beginning after the eighteenth month must be reduced by the ratio that the cost of repair of the unit bears to the original cost of the unit. This reduced rate remains in effect until the unit is capable of generating electricity.~~
- ~~3. For electrical generating plants, in addition to the tax imposed by subsection 2, there is a tax at the rate of twenty-five one-hundredths of one mill on each kilowatt hour of electricity produced for the purpose of sale. For all electrical generating plants that begin construction or complete repowering, the production from the plants is exempt from the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the plant.~~

- ~~4. For coal gasification plants, the tax is the greater of either the amount provided in subsection 4 or thirteen and one-half cents on each one thousand cubic feet [28316.85 liters] of synthetic natural gas produced for the purpose of sale but not including any amount of synthetic natural gas in excess of one hundred ten million cubic feet per day.~~
- ~~5. For all coal conversion facilities, other than electrical generating plants, the production from the facilities is exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this section for a period of five years from the date of first taxable production from the facility. The operator of each facility applying for exemption under this subsection shall certify to the tax commissioner the date of first taxable production of the facility.~~
- ~~6. For coal beneficiation plants, the tax is twenty cents on each ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms] of beneficiated coal produced for the purpose of sale, or one and one-quarter percent of the gross receipts derived from such facility for the preceding month, whichever amount is greater. Any amount of beneficiated coal produced in excess of eighty percent of the design capacity of the coal beneficiation plant or produced for use within a coal conversion facility is exempt from such tax.~~
- ~~7. With the exception of the tax imposed under subsection 3, the board of county commissioners, by resolution, may grant the operator of a plant or facility located within the county a partial or complete exemption from up to fifteen percent of the tax imposed under this section for a period not to extend past June 30, 2031. If a board of county commissioners grants a partial or complete exemption for a specific plant or facility under this subsection, subsection 2 of section 57-60-14 does not apply. Notwithstanding section 57-60-14, any tax collected from a plant or facility subject to the exemption provided by this subsection must be allocated entirely to the county for allocation as provided in section 57-60-15.~~

Imposition of taxes. (Effective after June 30, 2031) There is hereby imposed upon the operator of each coal conversion facility a tax paid monthly for the privilege of producing products of such coal conversion facility. The rate of the tax must be computed as follows:

1. For all coal conversion facilities, except as otherwise provided in this section, the tax is measured by the gross receipts derived from the facility for the preceding month and is in the amount of two percent of its gross receipts. Gross receipts derived from the sale of a capital asset are not subject to the tax imposed by this subsection.
2. For electrical generating plants, the tax is at a rate of sixty-five one-hundredths of one mill times sixty percent of the installed capacity of each unit times the number of hours in the taxable period. All electrical energy generating units that begin construction or complete repowering are exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the unit. The board of county commissioners may, by resolution, grant to the operator of an electrical generating plant located within the county partial or complete exemption from the remaining fifteen percent of the tax imposed by this subsection for a period not exceeding five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the unit. If a board of county commissioners grants a partial or complete exemption for a specific coal conversion facility under this subsection, the provisions of subsection 2 of section 57-60-14 do not apply as that subsection relates to revenue from the specific unit of the coal conversion facility for which the partial or complete exemption has been granted. Notwithstanding section 57-60-14, any tax collected from a unit subject to the exemption provided by this subsection must be allocated entirely to the county for allocation as provided in section 57-60-15. If a unit is incapable of generating electricity for eighteen consecutive months, the tax on that unit for taxable periods beginning after the eighteenth month must be reduced by the ratio that the cost of repair of the unit bears to the original cost of the unit. This reduced rate remains in effect until the unit is capable of generating electricity.

3. For electrical generating plants, in addition to the tax imposed by subsection 2, there is a tax at the rate of twenty-five one-hundredths of one mill on each kilowatt hour of electricity produced for the purpose of sale. For all electrical generating plants that begin construction or complete repowering, the production from the plants is exempt from the tax imposed by this subsection for five years from the date of the first taxable production or from the date of the first taxable production after repowering from the plant.
4. For coal gasification plants, the tax is the greater of either the amount provided in subsection 1 or thirteen and one-half cents on each one thousand cubic feet [28316.85 liters] of synthetic natural gas produced for the purpose of sale but not including any amount of synthetic natural gas in excess of one hundred ten million cubic feet per day.
5.
 - a. For all coal conversion facilities, other than electrical generating plants, the production from the facilities is exempt from eighty-five percent of the tax imposed by this section for a period of five years from the date of first taxable production from the facility. The operator of each facility applying for exemption under this subsection shall certify to the tax commissioner the date of first taxable production of the facility.
 - b. The board of county commissioners may, by resolution, grant to the operator of a coal conversion facility, other than an electrical generating plant, located within the county a partial or complete exemption from the remaining fifteen percent of tax imposed by this section for a period not exceeding five years from the date of the first taxable production from the facility. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 57-60-14, any tax collected which is based upon the production of a facility subject to the exemption provided by this subsection must be allocated entirely to the county for allocation as provided in section 57-60-15.
6. For coal beneficiation plants, the tax is twenty cents on each ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms] of beneficiated coal produced for the purpose of sale, or one and one-quarter percent of the gross receipts derived from such facility for the preceding month, whichever amount is greater. Any amount of beneficiated coal produced in excess of eighty percent of the design capacity of the coal beneficiation plant or produced for use within a coal conversion facility is exempt from such tax.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 57-60-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-60-02.1. Carbon dioxide capture credit - Reporting requirement.

A coal conversion facility that achieves a twenty percent capture of carbon dioxide emissions during a taxable period is entitled to a twenty percent reduction in the state ~~general~~legacy fund share of the tax imposed under section 57-60-02 during that taxable period. The facility is entitled to an additional reduction of one percent of the state ~~general~~legacy fund share of the tax imposed under section 57-60-02 for every additional two percentage points of its capture of carbon dioxide emissions. A maximum fifty percent reduction of the state ~~general~~legacy fund share of the tax imposed under section 57-60-02 is allowed for eighty percent or more capture of carbon dioxide emissions. A coal conversion facility may receive the reduction in coal conversion tax under this section for ten years from the date of first capture of carbon dioxide emission or for ten years from the date the coal conversion facility is eligible to receive the credit. A coal conversion facility that met the carbon dioxide capture requirements before January 1, 2017, may not claim the reduction under this section.

The operator of a coal conversion facility that receives a credit under this section shall report annually to the legislative council. The report must include:

1. An overview of the carbon dioxide capture project.

2. A status report on the current state of the carbon dioxide capture project, including data on the amount of carbon dioxide produced from the facility before the carbon dioxide capture project and the current carbon dioxide produced and captured from the facility.
3. Any recent changes to enhance the carbon dioxide capture system.
4. Information on the status of federal law and regulations related to the carbon dioxide capture project, including any benefits from the project realized by the operator under federal law and regulations.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 57-60-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-60-02.2. Coal conversion facility tax - Exemption - Lignite research tax - Imposition.
(Effective through after June 30, 2026, and through June 30, 2031)

1.
 - a. Excluding the generation tax imposed under subsection 3 of section 57-60-02, a coal conversion facility is exempt from eighty-five percent entitled to a partial exemption from the coal conversion state share of the tax imposed under section 57-60-02 and instead equal to:
 - (1) Ninety percent of the coal conversion state share for taxable production after June 30, 2026, and through June 30, 2027.
 - (2) Eighty percent of the coal conversion state share for taxable production after June 30, 2027, and through June 30, 2028.
 - (3) Seventy percent of the coal conversion state share for taxable production after June 30, 2028, and through June 30, 2029.
 - (4) Sixty percent of the coal conversion state share for taxable production after June 30, 2029, and through June 30, 2030.
 - (5) Thirty-five percent of the coal conversion state share for taxable production after June 30, 2030, and through June 30, 2031.
 - b. The coal conversion facility shall pay a lignite research tax equal to eighty-five percent of the tax imposed under section 57-60-02 before the application of the exemption under subdivision a, multiplied by five percent.
 - c. For purposes of this subsection, "coal conversion state share" means eighty-five percent of the tax imposed under section 57-60-02, excluding the generation tax imposed under subsection 3 of section 57-60-02.
2.
 - a. An electrical generating plant is exempt from entitled to a partial exemption from the generation tax imposed under subsection 3 of section 57-60-02 and instead equal to:
 - (1) Ninety percent of the generating plant state share for taxable production after June 30, 2026, and through June 30, 2027.
 - (2) Eighty percent of the generating plant state share for taxable production after June 30, 2027, and through June 30, 2028.
 - (3) Seventy percent of the generating plant state share for taxable production after June 30, 2028, and through June 30, 2029.
 - (4) Sixty percent of the generating plant state share for taxable production after June 30, 2029, and through June 30, 2030.

- (5) Thirty-five percent of the generating plant state share for taxable production after June 30, 2030, and through June 30, 2031.
- b. The electrical generating plant shall pay a lignite research tax equal to the tax imposed under subsection 3 of section 57-60-02 before the application of the exemption under subdivision a, multiplied by five percent.
- c. For purposes of this subsection, the "generating plant state share" means one hundred percent of the generation tax imposed under subsection 3 of section 57-60-02.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Section 57-60-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-60-14. Allocation of revenue - Continuing appropriation. (Effective through ~~after~~ June 30, 2026, and through June 30, 2031)

1. At least quarterly, the state treasurer shall allocate:
 - a. The lignite research tax collections under section 57-60-02.2 to the lignite research fund for the purposes under section 57-61-01.5.
 - b. The remaining portion of the coal conversion state share after the exemption under section 57-60-02.2 to the legacy fund to become part of the principal of the legacy fund. For purposes of this subdivision, "coal conversion state share" has the same meaning as subsection 1 of section 57-60-02.2.
 - c. The remaining portion of the generating plant state share after the exemption under section 57-60-02.2 to the legacy fund to become part of the principal of the legacy fund. For purposes of this subdivision, "generating plant state share" has the same meaning as subsection 2 of section 57-60-02.2.
 - d. The remaining coal conversion tax collections under section 57-60-02 to the county.
2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the allocation under this section to each county may not be less in each calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for each county under this section in the immediately preceding calendar year. For a county that has received less in a calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for that county in the immediately preceding calendar year, not later than January tenth of the following year, the county auditor shall calculate the amount that is due under this subsection and submit a statement of the amount to the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall verify the stated amount and make the required payment under this subsection to the county, from collections received under section 57-60-02, not later than March first of the following year. The funds needed to make the distribution to counties under this subsection are appropriated on a continuing basis for making these payments. Money received by a county under this subsection must be distributed pursuant to section 57-60-15.
3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for a county in which is located a coal conversion facility that was not a coal conversion facility under this chapter before January 1, 2002, for years after 2002, subsection 2 applies to allocations to that county under this section, except that for a county described in this subsection, amounts received for any calendar year must be allocated by the county in the same manner property taxes for the facility were allocated for taxable year 2001.

Allocation of revenue - Continuing appropriation. (Effective after June 30, ~~2026~~2031)

1. The state treasurer shall no less than quarterly allocate all moneys received from all coal conversion facilities in each county pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, fifteen percent to the county and eighty-five percent to the state general fund, except moneys received from the

tax imposed by subsection 3 of section 57-60-02, which must be deposited ~~inallocated to the state general fund. Five percent of all funds allocated to the state general fund pursuant to this chapter~~From the amount allocated to the state under this subsection:

- a. Five percent must be allocated to the lignite research fund, for the purposes defined in section 57-61-01.5; and
 - b. The remaining amount must be deposited in the legacy fund to become part of the principal of the legacy fund.
2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the allocation under this section to each county may not be less in each calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for each county under this section in the immediately preceding calendar year. For a county that has received less in a calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for that county in the immediately preceding calendar year, not later than January tenth of the following year, the county auditor shall calculate the amount that is due under this subsection and submit a statement of the amount to the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall verify the stated amount and make the required payment under this subsection to the county, from collections received under section 57-60-02, not later than March first of the following year. The funds needed to make the distribution to counties under this subsection are appropriated on a continuing basis for making these payments. Money received by a county under this subsection must be distributed pursuant to section 57-60-15.
3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for a county in which is located a coal conversion facility that was not a coal conversion facility under this chapter before January 1, 2002, for years after 2002, subsection 2 applies to allocations to that county under this section, except that for a county described in this subsection, amounts received for any calendar year must be allocated by the county in the same manner property taxes for the facility were allocated for taxable year 2001.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 57-60-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

~~57-60-14. Allocation of revenue -- Continuing appropriation. (Effective after June 30, 2026, and through June 30, 2034)~~

- ~~1. At least quarterly, the state treasurer shall allocate:~~
 - ~~a. The lignite research tax collections under section 57-60-02.2 to the lignite research fund for the purposes under section 57-61-01.5.~~
 - ~~b. The remaining portion of the coal conversion state share after the exemption under section 57-60-02.2 to the legacy fund to become part of the principal of the legacy fund. For purposes of this subdivision, "coal conversion state share" has the same meaning as subsection 1 of section 57-60-02.2.~~
 - ~~c. The remaining portion of the generating plant state share after the exemption under section 57-60-02.2 to the legacy fund to become part of the principal of the legacy fund. For purposes of this subdivision, "generating plant state share" has the same meaning as subsection 2 of section 57-60-02.2.~~
 - ~~d. The remaining coal conversion tax collections under section 57-60-02 to the county.~~
2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the allocation under this section to each county may not be less in each calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for each county under this section in the immediately preceding calendar year. For a county that has received less in a calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for that county in the immediately preceding calendar year, not later than January tenth of the following year,

~~the county auditor shall calculate the amount that is due under this subsection and submit a statement of the amount to the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall verify the stated amount and make the required payment under this subsection to the county, from collections received under section 57-60-02, not later than March first of the following year. The funds needed to make the distribution to counties under this subsection are appropriated on a continuing basis for making these payments. Money received by a county under this subsection must be distributed pursuant to section 57-60-15.~~

- ~~3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for a county in which is located a coal conversion facility that was not a coal conversion facility under this chapter before January 1, 2002, for years after 2002, subsection 2 applies to allocations to that county under this section, except that for a county described in this subsection, amounts received for any calendar year must be allocated by the county in the same manner property taxes for the facility were allocated for taxable year 2001.~~

Allocation of revenue - Continuing appropriation. (Effective after June 30, 2031)

1. The state treasurer shall no less than quarterly allocate all moneys received from all coal conversion facilities in each county pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, fifteen percent to the county and eighty-five percent to the state, except moneys received from the tax imposed by subsection 3 of section 57-60-02, which must be allocated to the state. From the amount allocated to the state under this subsection:
 - a. Five percent must be allocated to the lignite research fund, for the purposes defined in section 57-61-01.5; and
 - b. The remaining amount must be deposited in the legacy fund to become part of the principal of the legacy fund.
2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the allocation under this section to each county may not be less in each calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for each county under this section in the immediately preceding calendar year. For a county that has received less in a calendar year than the amount certified to the state treasurer for that county in the immediately preceding calendar year, not later than January tenth of the following year, the county auditor shall calculate the amount that is due under this subsection and submit a statement of the amount to the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall verify the stated amount and make the required payment under this subsection to the county, from collections received under section 57-60-02, not later than March first of the following year. The funds needed to make the distribution to counties under this subsection are appropriated on a continuing basis for making these payments. Money received by a county under this subsection must be distributed pursuant to section 57-60-15.
3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for a county in which is located a coal conversion facility that was not a coal conversion facility under this chapter before January 1, 2002, for years after 2002, subsection 2 applies to allocations to that county under this section, except that for a county described in this subsection, amounts received for any calendar year must be allocated by the county in the same manner property taxes for the facility were allocated for taxable year 2001.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Section 57-61-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

57-61-01. Severance tax upon coal - Imposition - In lieu of sales and use taxes - Payment to the tax commissioner. (Effective through June 30, 20262031)

1. There is hereby imposed upon all coal severed for sale or for industrial purposes by coal mines within the state a tax of thirty-seven and one-half cents per ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms]. The severance tax is in lieu of any sales or use taxes imposed by law.

Each coal mine owner or operator shall remit the tax for each month, within twenty-five days after the end of each month, to the tax commissioner on reports and forms as the tax commissioner deems necessary. For the purposes of this chapter, commercial leonardite is taxed in the same manner as coal.

2. The board of county commissioners, by resolution, may grant to the operator of a mine from which the coal or commercial leonardite is mined a partial or complete exemption from up to seventy percent of the tax imposed under this section for a period not to extend past June 30, ~~2026~~2031. Any tax revenue exceeding thirty percent of the tax imposed under this subsection must be allocated to the county under subsection 3 of section 57-62-02.

Severance tax upon coal - Imposition - In lieu of sales and use taxes - Payment to the tax commissioner. (Effective after June 30, ~~2026~~2031) There is hereby imposed upon all coal severed for sale or for industrial purposes by coal mines within the state a tax of thirty-seven and one-half cents per ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms]. The severance tax is in lieu of any sales or use taxes imposed by law. Each coal mine owner or operator shall remit the tax for each month, within twenty-five days after the end of each month, to the tax commissioner on reports and forms as the tax commissioner deems necessary. For the purposes of this chapter, commercial leonardite is taxed in the same manner as coal.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENT. Section 57-61-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

~~57-61-01. Severance tax upon coal - Imposition - In lieu of sales and use taxes - Payment to the tax commissioner. (Effective through June 30, 2031)~~

- ~~1. There is hereby imposed upon all coal severed for sale or for industrial purposes by coal mines within the state a tax of thirty-seven and one-half cents per ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms]. The severance tax is in lieu of any sales or use taxes imposed by law. Each coal mine owner or operator shall remit the tax for each month, within twenty-five days after the end of each month, to the tax commissioner on reports and forms as the tax commissioner deems necessary. For the purposes of this chapter, commercial leonardite is taxed in the same manner as coal.~~
- ~~2. The board of county commissioners, by resolution, may grant to the operator of a mine from which the coal or commercial leonardite is mined a partial or complete exemption from up to seventy percent of the tax imposed under this section for a period not to extend past June 30, 2031. Any tax revenue exceeding thirty percent of the tax imposed under this subsection must be allocated to the county under subsection 3 of section 57-62-02.~~

Severance tax upon coal - Imposition - In lieu of sales and use taxes - Payment to the tax commissioner. (Effective after June 30, ~~2031~~) There is hereby imposed upon all coal severed for sale or for industrial purposes by coal mines within the state a tax of thirty-seven and one-half cents per ton of two thousand pounds [907.18 kilograms]. The severance tax is in lieu of any sales or use taxes imposed by law. Each coal mine owner or operator shall remit the tax for each month, within twenty-five days after the end of each month, to the tax commissioner on reports and forms as the tax commissioner deems necessary. For the purposes of this chapter, commercial leonardite is taxed in the same manner as coal.

SECTION 9. REPEAL. Section 57-60-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. Section 7 of this Act is effective for taxable production beginning after June 30, 2025. Sections 1, 3, 4, and 5 of this Act are effective for taxable production beginning after June 30, 2026.

SECTION 11. CONTINGENT EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 2, 6, 8, and 9 of this Act become effective on the date the tax commissioner certifies to the legislative council that the production tax credit for electricity from renewables under section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code [26 U.S.C. 45] and

the clean electricity production tax credit under section 45Y of the Internal Revenue Code [26 U.S.C. 45Y] have been repealed, if the certification is received before June 30, 2031.

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. 1279.

House Vote: Yeas 68 Nays 21 Absent 5

Senate Vote: Yeas 44 Nays 2 Absent 1

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