

February 3, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1025

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Energy Development and Transmission Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study relating to advanced nuclear
2 energy; and to provide an appropriation.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - ADVANCED NUCLEAR ENERGY.**

5 1. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall study the feasibility,
6 siting, and deployment of advanced nuclear power plants in the state. The study must
7 include evaluation of:

8 a. Siting locations, including potential greenfield and brownfield sites, the
9 identification and assessment of undeveloped land suitable for construction,
10 developed land suitable for rehabilitation and reuse, geographical locations,
11 environmental impacts, proximity to infrastructure, and community acceptance;

12 b. Electric grid connectivity, including the capacity of the electrical grid and
13 integration of a nuclear power plant to the state, necessary upgrades and
14 expansions to ensure reliability, and recommendations adhering to national and
15 state electric standards and regulations;

16 c. Land use considerations, including long-term sustainability of proposed sites,
17 environmental and social factors, land use patterns and zoning regulations,
18 potential impacts on local land use, and proposed mitigation strategies;

- 1 d. Economic impacts, including potential tax revenue, job creation during
2 construction and operation of a nuclear facility, economic impacts on local and
3 state economies, and investor appeal;
- 4 e. Small modular and micro nuclear reactors, including the feasibility of constructing
5 and operating small modular and micro reactors to generate power in the state;
6 and
- 7 f. Provisions of the North Dakota Century Code that place restrictions on advanced
8 nuclear energy development, if any.
- 9 2. The study must invite participation from an institution of higher education for
10 assistance in evaluating social interests and community acceptance of potential siting
11 locations.
- 12 3. The committee must consist of:
 - 13 a. Two members representing the energy industry, appointed by the legislative
14 management;
 - 15 b. One member appointed by the public service commission;
 - 16 c. One member appointed by the industrial commission;
 - 17 d. One member appointed by the director of the department of water resources;
 - 18 e. Three members of the house of representatives selected by the majority leader of
19 the house of representatives, two of whom must represent the majority faction of
20 the house of representatives and one of whom must represent the minority
21 faction of the house of representatives; and
 - 22 f. Three members of the senate selected by the majority leader of the senate, two
23 of whom must represent the majority faction of the senate and one of whom must
24 represent the minority faction of the senate.
- 25 4. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
26 with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth
27 legislative assembly.
- 28 5. a. A member of the committee who is not a state employee is entitled to
29 reimbursement for mileage and expenses as provided by law for state officers
30 and employees, to be paid by the legislative council.

- 1 b. A state employee who is a member of the committee is entitled to receive that
2 employee's regular salary and is entitled to reimbursement for mileage and
3 expenses to be paid by the employing agency.
- 4 c. A member of the committee who is a member of the legislative assembly is
5 entitled to receive per diem compensation at the rate provided under section
6 54-35-10 for each day performing official duties of the committee. The legislative
7 council shall pay the per diem compensation and reimbursement for travel and
8 expenses as provided by law for any member of the committee who is a member
9 of the legislative assembly.

10 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - ADVANCED NUCLEAR**

11 **ENERGY STUDY - MATCHING FUNDS - ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated out of
12 any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of
13 ~~\$500,000~~\$300,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, and from special funds
14 derived from grants or donations from nonstate sources, the sum of ~~\$500,000~~\$300,000, or so
15 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the purpose of contracting
16 for consulting services for the study provided for in section 1 of this Act, for the biennium
17 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The legislative council shall seek matching
18 funds from the private sector to the extent available to assist with the cost of the project. The
19 funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.