

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;

19 d. Economic impacts, including potential tax revenue, job creation during  
20 construction and operation of a nuclear facility, economic impacts on local and  
21 state economies, and investor appeal; and

22 e. Provisions of the North Dakota Century Code that place restrictions on advanced  
23 nuclear energy development, if any.

- 1        2.    The study must invite participation from an institution of higher education for  
2            assistance in evaluating social interests and community acceptance of potential siting  
3            locations.
- 4        3.    The committee must consist of:
  - 5            a.    Two members representing the energy industry, appointed by the legislative  
6            management;
  - 7            b.    One member appointed by the public service commission;
  - 8            c.    One member appointed by the industrial commission;
  - 9            d.    Three members of the house of representatives selected by the majority leader of  
10           the house of representatives, two of whom must represent the majority faction of  
11           the house of representatives and one of whom must represent the minority  
12           faction of the house of representatives; and
  - 13           e.    Three members of the senate selected by the majority leader of the senate, two  
14           of whom must represent the majority faction of the senate and one of whom must  
15           represent the minority faction of the senate.
- 16       4.    The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together  
17           with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth  
18           legislative assembly.
- 19       5.    a.    A member of the committee who is not a state employee is entitled to  
20           reimbursement for mileage and expenses as provided by law for state officers  
21           and employees, to be paid by the legislative council.
- 22           b.    A state employee who is a member of the committee is entitled to receive that  
23           employee's regular salary and is entitled to reimbursement for mileage and  
24           expenses to be paid by the employing agency.
- 25           c.    A member of the committee who is a member of the legislative assembly is  
26           entitled to receive per diem compensation at the rate provided under section  
27           54-35-10 for each day performing official duties of the committee. The legislative  
28           council shall pay the per diem compensation and reimbursement for travel and  
29           expenses as provided by law for any member of the committee who is a member  
30           of the legislative assembly.

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

2       **ENERGY STUDY - MATCHING FUNDS - ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated out of  
3 any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of  
4 \$500,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, and from special funds derived from  
5 grants or donations from nonstate sources, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the sum as may  
6 be necessary, to the legislative council for the purpose of contracting for consulting services for  
7 the study provided for in section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and  
8 ending June 30, 2027. The legislative council shall seek matching funds from the private sector  
9 to the extent available to assist with the cost of the project. The funding provided in this section  
10 is considered a one-time funding item.