## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2013

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#### SENATE DRS85095-MH-3B\* (09/13)

Short Title:	Affordable and Reliable Energy Act.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senator Brock (Primary Sponsor).	
Referred to:		
	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED	
	REDUCE THE BURDEN OF HIGH ENERGY COSTS ON THE C	
	CAROLINA BY ELIMINATING RENEWABLE ENERGY I	
	ARDS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR COST RECOVERY BY PUBLIC	
	ERTAIN COSTS OF COMPLIANCE WITH RENEWABLE LIO STANDARDS.	E ENERGY
	Assembly of North Carolina enacts:	
	ECTION 1. G.S. 62-2(a) reads as rewritten:	
	claration of policy.	
	pon investigation, it has been determined that the rates, services and	operations of
	es as defined herein, are affected with the public interest and that the $a$	-
	and reliable supply of electric power and natural gas to the people,	
	of North Carolina is a matter of public policy. It is hereby declared to	be the policy
	f North Carolina:	
(1	, 1	public;
(2)		to all of the
(3	citizens and residents of the State;	to all of the
(3	a) To assure that resources necessary to meet future growth	through the
(3	provision of adequate, reliable utility service include use	-
	spectrum of demand-side options, service, including but no	
	conservation, load management and efficiency programs, a	as additional
	sources of energy supply and/or energy demand reductions. To	
	require energy planning and fixing of rates in a manner to resu	
	cost mix of generation and demand-reduction measures which is	
	including consideration of appropriate rewards to utilities for e	fficiency and
(1	conservation which decrease utility bills;  To provide just and reasonable rates and charges for public with the conservation which is a second provide in the c	tility corvices
(4	To provide just and reasonable rates and charges for public us without unjust discrimination, undue preferences or advantages	•
	destructive competitive practices and consistent with long-term	
	and conservation of energy resources by avoiding wasteful, une	_
	inefficient uses of energy;	
(4	a) To assure that facilities necessary to meet future growth can be	financed by
	the utilities operating in this State on terms which are reasonab	
	both the customers and existing investors of such utilities; and	
	authorize fixing of rates in such a manner as to result in lower	costs of new



1			facilities and lower rates over the operating lives of such new facilities by
2			making provisions in the rate-making process for the investment of public
3		(5)	utilities in plants under construction;
4		(5)	To encourage and promote harmony between public utilities, their users and
5		(6)	the environment;
6		(6)	To foster the continued service of public utilities on a well-planned and
7			coordinated basis that is consistent with the level of energy needed for the
8			protection of public health and safety and for the promotion of the general
9		(7)	welfare as expressed in the State energy policy; and
10 11		<del>(7)</del>	To seek to adjust the rate of growth of regulated energy supply facilities serving the State to the policy requirements of statewide development;
12		(8)	To cooperate with other states and with the federal government in promoting
13		(0)	and coordinating interstate and intrastate public utility service and reliability
14			of public utility energy supply; supply.
15		<del>(9)</del>	To facilitate the construction of facilities in and the extension of natural gas
16		())	service to unserved areas in order to promote the public welfare throughout
17			the State and to that end to authorize the creation of expansion funds for
18			natural gas local distribution companies or gas districts to be administered
19			under the supervision of the North Carolina Utilities Commission; and
20		<del>(10)</del>	To promote the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency
21		(10)	through the implementation of a Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
22			Portfolio Standard (REPS) that will do all of the following:
23			a. Diversify the resources used to reliably meet the energy needs of
24			consumers in the State.
25			b. Provide greater energy security through the use of indigenous energy
26			resources available within the State.
27			e. Encourage private investment in renewable energy and energy
28			efficiency.
29			d. Provide improved air quality and other benefits to energy consumers
30			and citizens of the State."
31		SECT	<b>TION 2.</b> G.S. 62-133.8 reads as rewritten:
32	"§ 62-13	33.8.	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard
33		(REP	S).Renewable Energy.
34	(a)	Defini	tions. – As used in this section:
35		<del>(1)</del>	"Combined heat and power system" means a system that uses waste heat to
36			produce electricity or useful, measurable thermal or mechanical energy at a
37			retail electric customer's facility.
38		(2)	"Demand-side management" means activities, programs, or initiatives
39			undertaken by an electric power supplier with customer approval or by its
40			customers to shift the timing of electricity use from peak to nonpeak demand
41			periods. "Demand-side management" includes, but is not limited to, load
42			management, electric system equipment and operating controls, direct load
43			control, and interruptible load.
44		(3)	"Electric power supplier" means a public utility, an electric membership
45			corporation, or a municipality that sells electric power to retail electric
46			power customers in the State.
47		(3a)	"Electricity demand reduction" means a measurable reduction in the
48			electricity demand of a retail electric customer that is voluntary, under the
49			real-time control of both the electric power supplier and the retail electric
50			customer, and measured in real time, using two-way communications
51			devices that communicate on the basis of standards.

"Energy efficiency measure" means an equipment, physical, or program **(4)** 1 2 change implemented after January 1, 2007, that results in less energy used to 3 perform the same function. "Energy efficiency measure" includes, but is not 4 limited to, energy produced from a combined heat and power system that 5 uses nonrenewable energy resources. "Energy efficiency measure" does not 6 include demand-side management. 7 "New renewable energy facility" means a renewable energy facility that (5) 8 either: 9 a. Was placed into service on or after January 1, 2007. 10 Delivers or has delivered electric power to an electric power supplier b. 11 pursuant to a contract with NC GreenPower Corporation that was 12 entered into prior to January 1, 2007. 13 Is a hydroelectric power facility with a generation capacity of 10 c. 14 megawatts or less that delivers electric power to an electric power 15 supplier. "Renewable energy certificate" means a tradable instrument that is equal to 16 <del>(6)</del> 17 one megawatt hour of electricity or equivalent energy supplied by a 18 renewable energy facility, new renewable energy facility, or reduced by 19 implementation of an energy efficiency measure that is used to track and 20 verify compliance with the requirements of this section as determined by the Commission. A "renewable energy certificate" does not include the related 21 emission reductions, including, but not limited to, reductions of sulfur 22 23 dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, mercury, or carbon dioxide. 24 (7) "Renewable energy facility" means a facility, other than a hydroelectric 25 power facility with a generation capacity of more than 10 megawatts, facility 26 that either: 27 Generates electric power by the use of a renewable energy resource. a. 28 b. Generates useful, measurable combined heat and power derived from 29 a renewable energy resource. 30 Is a solar thermal energy facility. 31 "Renewable energy resource" means a solar electric, solar thermal, wind, (8) 32 hydropower, geothermal, or ocean current or wave energy resource; a 33 biomass resource, including agricultural waste, animal waste, wood waste, 34 spent pulping liquors, combustible residues, combustible liquids, 35 combustible gases, energy crops, or landfill methane; waste heat derived 36 from a renewable energy resource and used to produce electricity or useful, 37 measurable thermal energy at a retail electric customer's facility; or 38 hydrogen derived from a renewable energy resource. "Renewable energy 39 resource" does not include peat, a fossil fuel, or nuclear energy resource. 40 <del>(b)</del> Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Standards (REPS) for Electric Public 41 Utilities. 42 Each electric public utility in the State shall be subject to a Renewable <del>(1)</del> 43 Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS) according to the 44 following schedule: 45 Calendar Year **REPS Requirement** 46 2012 3% of 2011 North Carolina retail sales 47 2015 6% of 2014 North Carolina retail sales 48 <del>2018</del> 10% of 2017 North Carolina retail sale

(2)

2021 and thereafter

one or more of the following:

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12.5% of 2020 North Carolina retail sales

An electric public utility may meet the requirements of this section by any

1		Canarata alactric nowar at a navy renewable anaray facility
2	<del>a.</del> <del>b.</del>	Generate electric power at a new renewable energy facility.
3	<del>U.</del>	Use a renewable energy resource to generate electric power at a
3 4		generating facility other than the generation of electric power from waste heat derived from the combustion of fossil fuel.
5		
6	<del>c.</del>	Reduce energy consumption through the implementation of an
7		energy efficiency measure; provided, however, an electric public utility subject to the provisions of this subsection may meet up to
8		twenty five persons (25%) of the requirements of this section through
9		twenty-five percent (25%) of the requirements of this section through
10		savings due to implementation of energy efficiency measures.
		Beginning in calendar year 2021 and each year thereafter, an electric
11		public utility may meet up to forty percent (40%) of the requirements
12		of this section through savings due to implementation of energy
13 14	J	efficiency measures.
	<del>d.</del>	Purchase electric power from a new renewable energy facility.
15		Electric power purchased from a new renewable energy facility
16		located outside the geographic boundaries of the State shall meet the
17		requirements of this section if the electric power is delivered to a
18		public utility that provides electric power to retail electric customers
19 20		in the State; provided, however, the electric public utility shall not
21		sell the renewable energy certificates created pursuant to this
22	0	paragraph to another electric public utility.  Purchase renewable energy certificates derived from in-State or
23	e.	out-of-state new renewable energy facilities. Certificates derived
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25		from out-of-state new renewable energy facilities shall not be used to meet more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the requirements of this
26		section, provided that this limitation shall not apply to an electric
27		public utility with less than 150,000 North Carolina retail
28		jurisdictional customers as of December 31, 2006.
29	<del>f.</del>	Use electric power that is supplied by a new renewable energy
30	1.	facility or saved due to the implementation of an energy efficiency
31		measure that exceeds the requirements of this section for any
32		calendar year as a credit towards the requirements of this section in
33		the following calendar year or sell the associated renewable energy
34		certificates.
35	<del>g.</del>	Electricity demand reduction.
36		Energy and Energy Efficiency Standards (REPS) for Electric
37	Membership Corporation	
38		electric membership corporation or municipality that sells electric
39		r to retail electric power customers in the State shall be subject to a
40		wable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS)
41		ding to the following schedule:
42	Calendar Yo	
43	<del>2012</del>	3% of 2011 North Carolina retail sales
44	<del>2015</del>	6% of 2014 North Carolina retail sales
45		nd thereafter 10% of 2017 North Carolina retail sales
46	(2) An -6	electric membership corporation or municipality may meet the
47		rements of this section by any one or more of the following:
48	<del>a.</del>	Generate electric power at a new renewable energy facility.
49	<del>b.</del>	Reduce energy consumption through the implementation of
50		demand side management or energy efficiency measures.
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- c. Purchase electric power from a renewable energy facility or a hydroelectric power facility, provided that no more than thirty percent (30%) of the requirements of this section may be met with hydroelectric power, including allocations made by the Southeastern Power Administration.
  - d. Purchase renewable energy certificates derived from in State or out-of-state renewable energy facilities. An electric power supplier subject to the requirements of this subsection may use certificates derived from out of state renewable energy facilities to meet no more than twenty five percent (25%) of the requirements of this section.
  - e. Acquire all or part of its electric power through a wholesale purchase power agreement with a wholesale supplier of electric power whose portfolio of supply and demand options meets the requirements of this section.
  - f. Use electric power that is supplied by a new renewable energy facility or saved due to the implementation of demand side management or energy efficiency measures that exceeds the requirements of this section for any calendar year as a credit towards the requirements of this section in the following calendar year or sell the associated renewable energy certificates.
  - g. Electricity demand reduction.

Gompliance With REPS Requirement Through Use of Solar Energy Resources. For calendar year 2018 and for each calendar year thereafter, at least two tenths of one percent (0.2%) of the total electric power in kilowatt hours sold to retail electric customers in the State, or an equivalent amount of energy, shall be supplied by a combination of new solar electric facilities and new metered solar thermal energy facilities that use one or more of the following applications: solar hot water, solar absorption cooling, solar dehumidification, solar thermally driven refrigeration, and solar industrial process heat. The terms of any contract entered into between an electric power supplier and a new solar electric facility or new metered solar thermal energy facility shall be of sufficient length to stimulate development of solar energy; provided, the Commission shall develop a procedure to determine if an electric power supplier is in compliance with the provisions of this subsection if a new solar electric facility or a new metered solar thermal energy facility fails to meet the terms of its contract with the electric power supplier. As used in this subsection, "new" means a facility that was first placed into service on or after January 1, 2007. The electric power suppliers shall comply with the requirements of this subsection according to the following schedule:

# Requirement for Solar Energy Resources 2010 0.02% 2012 0.07% 2015 0.14% 2018 0.20%

(e) Compliance With REPS Requirement Through Use of Swine Waste Resources. For calendar year 2018 and for each calendar year thereafter, at least two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) of the total electric power in kilowatt hours sold to retail electric customers in the State shall be supplied, or contracted for supply in each year, by swine waste. The electric power suppliers, in the aggregate, shall comply with the requirements of this subsection according to the following schedule:

## Requirement for Swine Calendar Year Waste Resources 2012 0.07%

<del>2015</del>	<del>0.14%</del>
2018	0.20%

(f) Compliance With REPS Requirement Through Use of Poultry Waste Resources. For calendar year 2014 and for each calendar year thereafter, at least 900,000 megawatt hours of the total electric power sold to retail electric customers in the State or an equivalent amount of energy shall be supplied, or contracted for supply in each year, by poultry waste combined with wood shavings, straw, rice hulls, or other bedding material. The electric power suppliers, in the aggregate, shall comply with the requirements of this subsection according to the following schedule:

### Requirement for Poultry

## Calendar Year 2012 2013 2014 Waste Resources 170,000 megawatt hours 700,000 megawatt hours 900,000 megawatt hours

- Control of Emissions. As used in this subsection, Best Available Control Technology (BACT) means an emissions limitation based on the maximum degree a reduction in the emission of air pollutants that is achievable for a facility, taking into account energy, environmental, and economic impacts and other costs. A biomass combustion process at any new renewable energy facility that delivers electric power to an electric power supplier shall meet BACT. The Environmental Management Commission shall determine on a case-by-case basis the BACT for a facility that would not otherwise be required to comply with BACT pursuant to the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) emissions program. The Environmental Management Commission may shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. In adopting rules, the Environmental Management Commission shall take into account cumulative and secondary impacts associated with the concentration of biomass facilities in close proximity to one another. In adopting rules the Environmental Management Commission shall provide for the manner in which a facility that would not otherwise be required to comply with BACT pursuant to the PSD emissions programs shall meet the BACT requirement. This subsection shall not apply to a facility that qualifies as a new renewable energy facility under sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of this section.
  - (h) Cost Recovery and Customer Charges.
    - (1) For the purposes of this subsection, the term "incremental costs" means all reasonable and prudent costs incurred prior to July 1, 2013, by an electric power supplier to:
      - a. Comply with the requirements of <u>former</u> subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section that are in excess of the electric power supplier's avoided costs other than those costs recovered pursuant to G.S. 62-133.9.
      - b. Fund research that encourages the development of renewable energy, energy efficiency, or improved air quality, provided those costs do not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per year.
      - c. Comply with any federal mandate that is similar to the requirements of <u>former</u> subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section that exceed the costs that the electric power supplier would have incurred under those subsections in the absence of the federal mandate.
    - (2) All reasonable and prudent costs incurred <u>prior to July 1, 2013,</u> by an electric power supplier to comply with any federal mandate that is similar to the requirements of <u>former</u> subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section, including, but not limited to, the avoided costs associated with a federal mandate that exceeds the avoided costs that the electric power supplier would have incurred pursuant to former subsections (b), (c), (d), (e),

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- and (f) of this section in the absence of the federal mandate, shall be recovered by the electric power supplier in an annual rider charge assessed in accordance with the schedule set out in subdivision (4) of this subsection increased by the Commission on a pro rata basis to allow for full and complete recovery of all reasonable and prudent costs incurred to comply with the federal mandate.
- Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the total annual (3) incremental cost to be incurred by an electric power supplier and recovered from the electric power supplier's retail customers shall not exceed an amount equal to the per-account annual charges set out in subdivision (4) of this subsection applied to the electric power supplier's total number of customer accounts determined as of December 31 of the previous calendar year. An electric power supplier shall be conclusively deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section if the electric power supplier's total annual incremental costs incurred equals an amount equal to the per-account annual charges set out in subdivision (4) of this subsection applied to the electric power supplier's total number of customer accounts determined as of December 31 of the <del>previous calendar year.</del> The total annual incremental cost recoverable by an electric power supplier from an individual customer shall not exceed the per-account charges set out in subdivision (4) of this subsection except as these charges may be adjusted in subdivision (2) of this subsection.
- An electric power supplier shall be allowed to recover the incremental costs (4) incurred prior to July 1, 2013, to comply with the requirements of former subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section and fund research as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection through an annual rider not to exceed the following per-account annual charges:

			<del>2015 and</del>
Customer Class	<del>2008-2011</del>	<del>2012-2014</del>	<del>thereafter</del>
Residential per account	<del>\$10.00</del>	<del>\$12.00</del>	<del>\$34.00</del>
Commercial per account	<del>\$50.00</del>	<del>\$150.00</del>	<del>\$150.00</del>
Industrial per account	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Customer Class</b>	<u>2008-2011</u>	<u>20</u>	12 and thereafter
Residential per account	\$10.00		\$12.00
Commercial per account	<u>\$50.00</u>		<u>\$150.00</u>
Industrial per account	<u>\$500.00</u>		\$1,000.00

- The Commission shall adopt rules to establish a procedure for the annual (5) assessment of the per-account charges set out in this subsection to an electric public utility's customers to allow for timely recovery of all reasonable and prudent costs of compliance with the requirements of <u>former</u> subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section and to fund research as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection. section. The Commission shall ensure that the costs to be recovered from individual customers on a per-account basis pursuant to subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection are in the same proportion as the per-account annual charges for each customer class set out in subdivision (4) of this subsection.
- After July 1, 2013, the Commission shall allow recovery under the annual (6) rider described in this subsection only for the reasonable and prudent costs incurred prior to July 1, 2013. For the purposes of this subsection, "costs incurred prior to July 1, 2013," include the following:

- a. Costs under renewable energy purchase contracts entered into prior to July 1, 2013.
- b. The costs of construction of renewable energy facilities for which a certificate of public convenience and necessity has been issued by the Commission prior to July 1, 2013.
- (i) Adoption of Rules. The Commission shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section. In developing rules, the Commission shall:
  - (1) Provide for the monitoring of compliance with and enforcement of the requirements of this section.
  - (2) Include a procedure to modify or delay the provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this section in whole or in part if the Commission determines that it is in the public interest to do so. The procedure adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall include a requirement that the electric power supplier demonstrate that it made a reasonable effort to meet the requirements set out in this section.
  - (3) Ensure that energy credited toward compliance with the <u>provisions former</u> renewable energy portfolio standards of this section not be credited toward any other purpose, including another renewable energy portfolio standard or voluntary renewable energy purchase program in this State or any other state.
  - (4) Establish standards for interconnection of renewable energy facilities and other nonutility-owned generation with a generation capacity of 10 megawatts or less to an electric public utility's distribution system; provided, however, that the Commission shall adopt, if appropriate, federal interconnection standards.
  - (5) Ensure that the owner and operator of each renewable energy facility that delivers electric power to an electric power supplier is in substantial compliance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and rules for the protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources.
  - (6) Consider whether it is in the public interest to adopt rules for electric public utilities for net metering of renewable energy facilities with a generation capacity of one megawatt or less.
  - (7) Develop procedures to track and account for renewable energy certificates, including ownership of renewable energy certificates that are derived from a customer owned renewable energy facility as a result of any action by a customer of an electric power supplier that is independent of a program sponsored by the electric power supplier.
- (j) Report. No later than October 1 of each year, the Commission shall submit a report on the activities taken by the Commission to implement, and by electric power suppliers to comply with, the requirements of this section to the Governor, the Environmental Review Commission, and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations. The report shall include any public comments received regarding direct, secondary, and cumulative environmental impacts of the implementation of the requirements of this section. In developing the report, the Commission shall consult with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
- (k) Tracking of Renewable Energy Certificates. No later than July 1, 2010, the <u>The</u> Commission shall develop, implement, and maintain an Internet Web site for the online tracking of renewable energy certificates in order to verify the compliance of electric power suppliers with the REPS requirements of this section and to facilitate the establishment of a market for the purchase and sale of renewable energy certificates."

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2013.