

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2196

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to provide for disclosure to consumers of the fuels and sources of electric energy purchased from electric utilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2007

Mr. REYES (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. INSLEE, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to provide for disclosure to consumers of the fuels and sources of electric energy purchased from electric utilities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Knowledge Is Power
5 Act” .

1 **SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY SOURCES BY**
2 **ELECTRIC UTILITIES.**

3 (a) DISCLOSURE STANDARD.—Section 111(d) of the
4 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.
5 2621(d)) is amended by adding the following at the end:

6 “(16) DISCLOSURE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY
7 SOURCES.—Each electric utility shall disclose to con-
8 sumers on their periodic billing statement the per-
9 centage mix of energy technologies and fuels used to
10 generate the electricity sold within the distribution
11 utility’s distribution area. In describing such mix,
12 each such utility shall disclose the percentage of
13 electricity generated from coal, from gas, from nu-
14 clear, from any other fuel, and from any particular
15 type (including solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas,
16 ocean tidal, ocean wave, ocean current, ocean ther-
17 mal, geothermal, municipal solid waste, or hydro-
18 electric) of renewable energy (as defined in section
19 203(b)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005). Such
20 disclosure shall be printed in such manner as to
21 gives it prominence on the statement.”.

22 (b) COMPLIANCE.—

23 (1) TIME LIMITATIONS.—Section 112(b) of the
24 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16
25 U.S.C. 2622(b)) is amended by adding at the end
26 the following:

1 “(6)(A) Not later than 1 year after the enact-
2 ment of this paragraph, each State regulatory au-
3 thority (with respect to each electric utility for which
4 it has ratemaking authority) and each nonregulated
5 utility shall commence the consideration referred to
6 in section 111, or set a hearing date for consider-
7 ation, with respect to the standard established by
8 paragraph (16) of section 111(d).

9 “(B) Not later than two years after the date of
10 the enactment of the this paragraph, each State reg-
11 ulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility
12 for which it has ratemaking authority), and each
13 nonregulated electric utility, shall complete the con-
14 sideration, and shall make the determination, re-
15 ferred to in section 111 with respect to each stand-
16 ard established by paragraph (16) of section
17 111(d).”.

18 (2) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—ection 112(d) of the
19 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16
20 U.S.C. 2622(c)) is amended by adding at the end
21 the following: “In the case of the standard estab-
22 lished by paragraph (16), the reference contained in
23 this subsection to the date of enactment of this Act
24 shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of en-
25 actment of paragraph (16).”.

1 (3) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 112 of the
3 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978
4 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 “(g) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections (b) and
7 (c) of this section shall not apply to the standard estab-
8 lished by paragraph (16) of section 111(d) in the case of
9 any electric utility in a State if, before the enactment of
10 this subsection—

11 “(1) the State has implemented for such utility
12 the standard concerned (or a comparable standard);

13 “(2) the State regulatory authority for such
14 State or relevant nonregulated electric utility has
15 conducted a proceeding to consider implementation
16 of the standard concerned (or a comparable stand-
17 ard) for such utility; or

18 “(3) the State legislature has voted on the im-
19 plementation of such standard (or a comparable
20 standard) for such utility.”.

21 (B) CROSS REFERENCE.—Section 124 of
22 such Act (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amended by add-
23 ing the following at the end thereof: “In the
24 case of each standard established by paragraph
25 (16) of section 111(d), the reference contained

1 in this subsection to the date of enactment of
2 the Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the
3 date of enactment of paragraph (16).”.

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