



Transcending Boundaries

2025 HYDROCARBONS & GEOTHERMAL ENERGY LEGISLATIVE DIGEST





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**A Guide to Hydrocarbon and Geothermal Energy
Legislation in the United States**

December 2025

Covering measures across all states and territories

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Southern States Energy Board's Hydrocarbons & Geothermal Energy Digest is compiled in collaboration with member states and territories and beyond.

The focus of our efforts highlights the work of our member states and territories first and foremost. The national component to this digest should not be considered exhaustive nor complete pursuant to the topics covered.

This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy's Hydrocarbons and Geothermal Energy Office under Award Number(s) DE-FE0031947.

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Through innovations in energy
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Southern States Energy Board
enhances economic development
and the quality of life in the South.



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INTRODUCTION

The December 2025 edition of our Hydrocarbons & Geothermal Energy Digest is designed to serve as a one-stop resource highlighting recently enacted hydrocarbon management, geothermal energy, and critical mineral legislation across the nation.

This document is not meant to be an exhaustive guide to all legislation falling under the aforementioned categories, nor is it a complete guide of all state legislative efforts to assist their regulatory agencies and utilities on resource planning.

If you have a suggestion for additional legislation to include within this document, please contact our Communications Manager, Turney Foshee, via email at foshee@sseb.org.

CATEGORIES OF LEGISLATION

Hydrocarbon Energy

This category encompasses legislation governing hydrocarbon energy (i.e. fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas, and petroleum) from extraction and waste management to energy generation.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

This portion collects all carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) measures.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

Bills under this category encompass all provisions associated with mining and refinement of critical minerals and rare earth elements.

Geothermal Energy

Legislation under this category covers all efforts to regulate and incentivize geothermal energy production.

LEGISLATION PREFIXES

<i>AB</i>	<i>Assembly Bill</i>
<i>HB</i>	<i>House Bill</i>
<i>HCM</i>	<i>House Concurrent Memorial</i>
<i>HCR</i>	<i>House Concurrent Resolution</i>
<i>HJR</i>	<i>House Joint Resolution</i>
<i>HR</i>	<i>House Resolution</i>
<i>R</i>	<i>Resolution</i>
<i>SB</i>	<i>Senate Bill</i>
<i>SCR</i>	<i>Senate Concurrent Resolution</i>
<i>SJR</i>	<i>Senate Joint Resolution</i>
<i>SR</i>	<i>Senate Resolution</i>

ALABAMA

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB271 | Natural and Manufactured Gas Utility Fees

Sponsored by Allen

Prohibits municipalities from charging natural or manufactured gas utilities certain fees or charges tied to public street use for construction or operations.

ALASKA

Hydrocarbon Energy

SJR19 | State Share of National Petroleum Reserve

Sponsored by Bjorkman, et al.

Urges the United States Congress to provide that the state receive a 90 percent share of all bonuses, royalties, and rentals under leases received by the federal government for exploration, development, and production in the coastal plain of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska while maintaining the original local impact grant program.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

SJR19 | State Share of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Sponsored by Bjorkman, et al.

Urges the United States Congress to honor the terms of the Mineral Leasing Act and the Alaska Statehood Act, which provide that the state receive a 90 percent share of all bonuses, royalties, and rentals under leases received by the federal government for exploration, development, and production in the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

ARIZONA

Hydrocarbon Energy

HCM 2014 | Encouraging Reliable Energy Production

Sponsored by Olson

Urges the Arizona Corporation Commission to ensure the Arizona grid is powered by affordable and reliable energy generation.

The resolution asks the Commission to reconsider previous decisions approving the closure of existing coal plants, including the planned retirement of the Cholla Generating Station in 2025 and the Four Corners Power Plant in 2031. It also encourages the support of President Trump's energy agenda through the use of reliable sources of power generation, such as coal.

SB1056 | Liquefied Petroleum Gas Containers

Sponsored by Gowan and Shamp

Raises the criminal penalty for unauthorized filling, evacuation, or defacement of a liquefied petroleum gas container.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

HCR 2044 | Need for Mineral and Metal Resources

Sponsored by Griffin, et al.

Recognizes and affirms the critical importance of Arizona's mineral resources and mining industry to the state, national, and global economies.

The resolution directs the legislature to support policies and initiatives that promote domestic production, refining and recycling of critical and strategic resources to reduce reliance on foreign imports, and it asks legislators to request federal, state, and local governments to streamline the mining permitting process to expedite the responsible development of Arizona's resources.

Further, the resolution asks for legislative commitment to fostering a business-friendly environment that encourages mining investment in Arizona, to sustaining Arizona's leadership in the mining sector, and to aiding in the establishment of a domestic supply chain for resources that are critical to this nation's economy and national security.

Legislators are also urged to request that the federal government develop a comprehensive and strategic critical minerals policy that prioritizes national security, economic stability, and environmental sustainability.

ARKANSAS

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB1277 | Corrective Action Regarding Petroleum Storage Tanks

Sponsored by Gramlich and Boyd

Modifies existing law to amend payment procedures for corrective actions regarding petroleum storage tanks and to allow third party consultants of owners and operators to be paid directly for corrective work.

Under prior law corrective action reimbursements were made only to tank owners and operators.

This bill authorizes direct payment to third party consultants upon verification of corrective action completion, and it also updates reimbursement guidelines to include consultant invoicing as an eligible expense under the corrective action fund.

HB1303 | Sustainable Aviation Fuel Incentive Act

Sponsored by Jean, et al.

Creates the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Incentive Act and establishes income tax credits related to sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

The bill offers two primary incentives: an income tax credit of 30 percent toward the cost of SAF production or processing equipment (with caps based on tax liability), and a credit for end-users equal to \$1.09 per gallon purchased beyond the first 100,000 gallons.

It also exempts utility services used in SAF production from Arkansas’s gross receipts tax to lower operational costs, and targets large-scale manufacturing investments—requiring at least \$2 billion in capital and construction commencement by December 31, 2027.

HB1385 | Oil and Gas Commission Permitting Provisions

Sponsored by Cooper and Payton

Requires the Oil and Gas Commission to provide written notice of a public hearing required by law on any permit to drill, deepen, re-enter, recomplete, or operate any Class II underground injection control (UIC) disposal well to each member of the General Assembly who represents the district in which the Class II UIC disposal well is located.

HB1656 | Oil and Gas Production and Conservation

Sponsored by Beck and Davis

Amends existing law governing oil and gas production and the allocation of costs and proceeds following integration orders.

The bill defines “net proceeds” for the purposes of royalty and cost allocation, which clarifies the obligations of operators and working-interest owners to mineral owners, including ensuring minimum royalties (at least 1/8 of net proceeds), timely payment, and reimbursement for unauthorized deductions.

HB1735 | Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act Amendments

Sponsored by Eaves and Irvin

Amends the Arkansas Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act to revise membership requirements for the One Call Center.

The measure requires all underground facility operators to join the One Call Center, subject to exemptions or waivers granted by the Arkansas Public Service Commission.

It imposes a \$1,000 fine for operators who fail to join within 30 days of a written warning and an additional \$500 fine for each subsequent 30-day period of non-compliance, while also clarifying that other persons owning or controlling underground facilities may apply for membership, and that membership is evidenced by participation and payment for services.

HB1937 | Mineral Rights and Oil and Gas Valuation

Sponsored by Jean, Stone, and Caldwell

Defines methods for assessing mineral rights value under the state constitution and clarifies valuation for oil and gas well production equipment.

The legislation expands the definition of “well” to include oil wells, natural gas wells, and combination hydrocarbon production wells and directs county assessors to value production equipment at a standard rate of one dollar per foot of equipment length, excluding inoperable well casings.

It further separates the valuation of mineral interests from land ownership when the interests are held by different parties and requires assessors to apply an income-approach valuation based on average hydrocarbon prices from the previous calendar year.

SB267 | Alternative Motor Fuel Development Act Repeal

Sponsored by Irvin and Moore

Repeals the Arkansas Alternative Motor Fuel Development Act and the Alternative Motor Fuel Development Fund.

SB275 | Liquefied Petroleum Gas Regulations

Sponsored by Irvin and Moore

Amends the law concerning the regulation of liquefied petroleum gases by repealing several existing code provisions and updating board authority and requirements.

The bill repeals provisions related to odorization standards, mandatory safety meetings, container specifications, and retail seller account-statement requirements.

It authorizes the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board to mandate initial and recurring training for employees of permit holders, requires proof of training completion, and establishes penalties for noncompliance.

The board is further empowered to adopt National Fire Protection Association standards and to streamline permit applications by removing the requirement for certified or notarized financial statements for various permit classes.

SB478 | Arkansas Diesel Engine Freedom Act of 2025

Sponsored by Stubblefield

Prohibits state enforcement of specified federal regulations governing diesel engine emissions and performance.

State agencies and political subdivisions may not adopt, enforce, or condition any permits, certificates, registrations, or other authorizations on compliance with federal emissions or performance standards for diesel engines.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB1411 | Regulation of CCS

Sponsored by Shepherd and Stone

Establishes Arkansas's regulatory and funding structure for carbon capture and underground storage (CCS).

The measure grants the Oil and Gas Commission authority over permitting, monitoring, closure, and enforcement of CCS (Class VI) wells, introduces financial assurance requirements and a structured fee system, and creates a dedicated fund designed to support long-term oversight, remediation, and public-safety protections.

HB1412 | Pipeline Safety Authorizations

Sponsored by Shepherd and Stone

Allows the Oil and Gas Commission to take various actions concerning pipeline facilities and the transport of hazardous liquids or carbon dioxide.

The commission may submit a satisfactory state certification and promulgate rules required by the United States Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to assume authority over national safety standards and reporting requirements.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

SB568 | Lithium Extraction and Development

Sponsored by Crowell, et al.

Amends existing law to provide sales and use tax exemptions for lithium resource development and to revise severance tax provisions for lithium extraction.

Under prior law, sales and use tax applied to tangible personal property and services used in lithium extraction, development, and related activities.

This legislation exempts machinery, equipment, and materials used directly in lithium extraction, processing, and production, which includes drilling, pumping, and beneficiation operations, from sales and use tax.

Finally, it amends severance tax law to classify lithium as a taxable mineral and to apply a specified severance rate consistent with other classified minerals.

Geothermal Energy

SB596 | State Energy Policy Establishment

Sponsored by McKee and McAlindon

Modifies existing energy law to establish a comprehensive state energy policy and regulate the retirement of dispatchable electric generation facilities.

The bill includes legislative findings that underscore the necessity for reliable and affordable energy, including geothermal, to support Arkansas's economic growth and to address challenges posed by federal regulations and rising electrification costs.

CALIFORNIA

Hydrocarbon Energy

AB751 | Petroleum Facility Safety

Sponsored by Gipson

Extends indefinitely an existing exemption from mandatory rest period requirements for safety-sensitive employees at petroleum facilities.

SB237 | Oil Spill Preparedness

Sponsored by Grayson, et al.

Strengthens transparency and public input regarding oil spill preparedness.

Agencies must publicly post applications for certificates of financial responsibility from facilities, and beginning January 15, 2027 (and every 10 years thereafter) agencies must solicit public input to review how “reasonable worst-case spill volumes” and “financial responsibility” are calculated, according to the measure.

The bill requires that any existing oil pipeline of six inches or larger which has been idle, inactive, or out of service for five years or more must undergo a “hydrostatic spike test” and a second test before restarting. Test results must be posted publicly within 30 calendar days of each test.

Finally, the act authorizes the Governor (in consultation with relevant state agencies) to suspend regulatory control periods that restrict the sale or supply of gasoline based on Reid vapor pressure limits if average retail gasoline price has increased substantially or is projected to increase substantially in any 30-day period and such a suspension is deemed necessary and prudent. In doing so the Governor must consider air-quality effects and mitigation.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

SB614 | CO₂ Pipeline Provisions

Sponsored by Stern and McNERney

Expands the definition of “pipeline” under existing pipeline-safety statutes (the Elder California Pipeline Safety Act of 1981) to include intrastate pipelines used for the transportation of CO₂.

The measure mandates that the California State Fire Marshal adopt regulations, by no later than July 1, 2026, governing the safe transportation of CO₂ in pipelines. The act prohibits repurposing an existing pipeline (originally constructed for another liquid or gas) to transport CO₂, and it also prohibits constructing CO₂ pipelines using previously used pipe or components.

The bill requires CO₂ pipeline operators to perform detailed mapping and inventorying of the “emergency planning zone,” defined as within two miles of either side of the pipeline, including identification of “sensitive receptors” (like schools, hospitals, residences) and modeling of potential release impacts. It imposes notification and public-disclosure requirements: operators must submit the inventory and map to the State Fire Marshal and the project lead agency; local governments providing emergency response services must receive updates every three years; and the public agencies must post redacted versions of the maps online. In the event of a pipeline rupture or unsafe operation, the State Fire Marshal is authorized to shut down a CO₂-transport pipeline until cause of the rupture is determined and operations may safely resume.

For any project involving the construction of a CO₂-transport pipeline, the bill requires the respective lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or equivalent documentation. The lead agency must notify owners/operators of sensitive receptors within a quarter-mile and notify the State Fire Marshal at least 60 days before certification of the EIR.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

SB831 | Mineral Usage Confidentiality

Sponsored by Limon

Removes the requirement that all reports submitted to the State Geologist containing data on consumption or utilization of mineral materials be confidential.

This bill instead requires the reports to be maintained by the Department of Conservation as confidential only if appropriately identified as confidential by the submitting entity.

Geothermal Energy

AB531 | Geothermal Projects Eligibility

Sponsored by Rogers and Papan

Expands the types of facilities eligible to be certified as environmental leadership development projects by the Energy Commission to include geothermal power plants and projects that comprise multiple geothermal power plants on a single site.

AB1280 | Financing Thermal Energy Projects

Sponsored by Garcia and Zbur

Authorizes the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank to provide financial assistance in connection with the financing or refinancing of a project enabling the decarbonization of industrial facilities' use of heat and power, including, but not limited to, industrial heat pump and thermal energy storage projects with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission and the State Air Resources Board as consulting agencies.

COLORADO

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB37 | Coal Transition Grants

Sponsored by Kirkmeyer, et al.

Modifies state assistance for communities transitioning away from coal by prioritizing grant funding for areas most affected by coal mine and power plant closures.

SB286 | Petroleum Products Fees

Sponsored by Hinrichsen, et al.

Authorizes spending from the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund for costs to relocate the state petroleum testing laboratory and imposes new civil penalties for selling substandard gasoline and for failing to file required air quality notices.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB1165 | Geologic Storage Stewardship Enterprise

Sponsored by Paschal, et al.

Creates the Geologic Storage Stewardship Enterprise (Enterprise) within the Colorado Department of Natural Resources for the purposes of funding long-term stewardship of underground carbon-dioxide storage sites; setting and collecting annual stewardship fees from operators; plugging, abandoning, reclaiming, and remediating orphaned geologic storage facilities if needed; and placing those costs on industry rather than taxpayers.

The measure requires each operator of a geologic storage facility to pay an annual fee (per ton of CO₂ injected) into a new cash fund that is continuously appropriated to support the Enterprise's operations. The bill provides that once a site closes, ownership of remaining CO₂ and associated facilities transfers to the state and the operator is released from regulatory liability (in most circumstances), and the Enterprise takes over long-term stewardship.

SB307 | Decarbonization Tax Credits Administration Cash Fund

Sponsored by Amabile, et al.

Requires that money credited to the Decarbonization Tax Credits Administration Cash Fund not exceed the net revenue from the collection of oil and gas severance tax.

The measure also transfers \$2,500,000 from the Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund to the aforementioned fund.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

SB54 | Mining Operations and Waste Provisions

Sponsored by Bridges, et al.

Creates a new permit type in the Department of Natural Resources for the removal of mining waste and refuse, updates forfeiture and warranty procedures related to mining operations, and ratifies Colorado as a full member of the Interstate Mining Compact.

Geothermal Energy

HB1165 | Geothermal Regulatory Framework

Sponsored by Paschal, et al.

Updates the regulatory framework for geothermal resources in the state by clarifying that "nontributary groundwater" does not include "designated groundwater" and exempting certain geothermal operations from well-permit requirements (when only heat is withdrawn).

The act further requires notice to pre-existing geothermal operations of new well applications that could cause material injury.

CONNECTICUT

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB5004 | Carbon Sequestration Goals

Sponsored by the House Environment Committee

Updates the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals to aim for net-zero emissions by 2050.

The bill requires the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and other agencies to develop plans and strategies for achieving those goals, including considering technologies and programs that "sequester carbon."

Geothermal Energy

HB5004 | Carbon Sequestration Goals

Sponsored by the House Environment Committee

Authorizes and encourages thermal energy network grants and loans, meaning systems that can use ground-source, below-ground, or other "thermal energy networks" to provide heating/cooling rather than conventional fossil fuels.

DELAWARE

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB116 | Pricing Flexibility for Low-income Customers

Sponsored by Heffernan, et al.

Provides the Public Service Commission with the flexibility to consider and approve a discounted gas or electric residential utility rate for qualified low-income customers, provided the discount is 20 percent of standard residential distribution rates.

FLORIDA

Hydrocarbon Energy

H733 | Brownfield Eligibility

Sponsored by Natural Resources, et al.

Prohibits the Department of Environmental Protection and local pollution control programs from denying brownfield status or refusing to issue required orders for eligible sites.

H1137 | Prohibiting Fuel Source Restrictions

Sponsored by Commerce, Shoaf, and Barnaby

Prohibits rural electric cooperatives, boards, agencies, commissions, and any authority of any county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision from restricting or prohibiting fuel sources and appliances used to provide energy to consumers.

H1143 | Permits for Drilling, Exploration, and Extraction of Oil and Gas Resources

Sponsored by Shoaf, et al.

Prohibits drilling, exploration, or production of specified petroleum products within a defined proximity of national estuarine research reserves.

The legislation prohibits these activities within ten miles of a national estuarine research reserve that lies in a county designated as a rural area of opportunity.

It requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to consider specific environmental factors, such as ecological condition, hydrologic connection, uniqueness, location, fish and wildlife use, time lag, and restoration costs, when evaluating whether a waterbody or shoreline is adequately protected from potential accidents or blowouts.

A balancing test is established for DEP to assess protective measures against potential harm to natural resources.

GEORGIA

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB13 | Georgia Environmental Finance Authority Duties

Sponsored by Summers, et al.

Authorizes the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority to finance and perform duties in connection with projects relating to natural gas facilities and the conversion of electrical lines.

The legislation revises relevant definitions to encompass natural gas facility and electrical infrastructure projects, which empowers the authority to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement its expanded financing and oversight functions.

HAWAII

Hydrocarbon Energy

HR181 | Fossil Energy Independence

Sponsored by Lowen, Marten, and Perruso

Requests the Governor, state agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to accelerate Hawaii's clean energy transition and take immediate, decisive action to reduce and eliminate dependence on imported fossil fuels to improve energy security and protect consumers from rising energy costs.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB1017 | Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

Sponsored by Nakamura

Repeals the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

Geothermal Energy

HR54/SR115 | Geothermal Energy Working Group Creation

Sponsored by Lowen, et al.; Cruz, et al.

Asks the State Energy Office to convene a Geothermal Energy Working Group to evaluate the regulatory and policy landscape surrounding geothermal energy in Hawaii.

IDAHO

Hydrocarbon Energy

H329 | Property Tax Exemptions for Utilities

Sponsored by Revenue and Taxation Committee

Revises and adds to existing law to alter property tax assessments and exemptions for rate-regulated electric and gas utilities and to establish tax levies on rate-regulated utilities.

The act amends the assessment of operating property under existing law by updating the State Tax Commission's apportionment methodology for rate-regulated electric utility companies, rate-regulated affiliated gas companies, and rate-regulated gas companies and by repealing obsolete assessment provisions.

Further, the measure exempts from property taxation under existing law real estate, fixtures, and personal property owned, controlled, operated, or held for use by rate-regulated electric utility companies, rate-regulated affiliated gas companies, rate-regulated gas companies, and renewable energy producers, subject to existing energy taxes.

S1146 | Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Revisions

Sponsored by State Affairs Committee

Revises membership qualifications for the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission by removing the requirement that a member hold a degree in geosciences or engineering.

ILLINOIS

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

SB1697 | Carbon Capture Compensation

Sponsored by Fine, Guzman, Feigenholtz, and Hoffman

Creates a compensation framework for affected landowners when required activities to construct a carbon dioxide pipeline cause damage under existing law.

The measure lists recoverable damages that include crops, trees, fences, roads, structures, improvements, livestock, loss of crop value, restoration of the surface estate and conservation practices, damage to soil productivity from compaction or rutting, and restoration of surface and subsurface drainage.

The law requires prompt payment when damages are undisputed, and it allows a prevailing land-owner to recover reasonable attorney fees in an action for damages, directs applicants to comply with the agricultural impact mitigation agreement with the Department of Agriculture, and authorizes the department to halt construction temporarily for noncompliance.

The legislation revises procedures for integration and unitization of pore space within sequestration facilities, and it permits the Department of Natural Resources to issue integration orders when a sequestration operator has secured rights to at least 75 percent of the surface area overlying the facility.

The measure specifies petition contents, public notice and hearing requirements, and a \$250,000 application fee deposited into the Oil and Gas Resource Management Fund.

Further, the act conditions the effectiveness of an integration order on obtaining a Class VI well permit and a carbon sequestration permit, and it authorizes separate orders that set just compensation for each nonconsenting pore space owner after a hearing.

Compensation standards for nonconsenting pore space owners are defined within the measure, including just compensation and operations term and injection term payments made after the initiation of injection, and it excludes incentives such as signing bonuses paid before injection.

The legislation provides that unknown or nonlocatable pore space owners receive just compensation held in escrow for 20 years before transfer under the unclaimed property law if unclaimed.

The measure requires a sequestration operator to supply alternate potable water within 24 hours and alternate water for other uses within 30 days if monitoring shows a drinking water source is unsafe, and it continues those supplies until monitoring shows the water is safe.

Finally, the law clarifies factors used to determine whether pore space owners are similarly situated, including size, location, geology, surface restrictions, and use, applicable law at the time of agreements, title issues, proximity to infrastructure, interference with mineral rights, and fair market value.

SB1723 | Sole Source Aquifer Provisions

Sponsored by Faraci, et al.

Amends the Environmental Protection Act.

The legislation provides that no person may conduct a carbon sequestration activity within a sequestration facility that overlies, underlies, or passes through a sole-source aquifer.

It specifies that this provision does not deprive the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of the authority to deny a carbon sequestration permit.

INDIANA

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB178 | Clean Energy Resources

Sponsored by Buck, et al.

Recognizes natural gas and propane as clean energy resources.

The measure defines clean energy or green energy to include natural gas, propane, wind energy, solar energy, photovoltaic cells and panels, hydropower, fuel cells, hydrogen, geothermal energy, and nuclear energy.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

SB457 | CO₂ Sequestration and Transport

Sponsored by Glick, Koch, and Soliday

Revises existing law relating to carbon dioxide sequestration and transmission pipelines.

The legislation exempts a carbon dioxide transmission pipeline company from obtaining a certificate of authority if the company's project meets specified criteria.

The measure requires applicants or their contractors or subcontractors to submit evidence of requisite experience constructing, operating, and maintaining transmission pipelines before the Department of Natural Resources may grant a certificate of authority.

The law moves fee revenue collected for carbon dioxide transmission pipeline certificates from the Oil and Gas Environmental Fund to the State General Fund, and it provides that filing fees for carbon sequestration project permits are deposited in the state General Fund.

Involuntary integration orders issued by the department take effect fifteen days after the petitioner is issued a UIC Class VI permit.

Further, it amends the definition of UIC Class VI permit and adjusts the filing fee for carbon sequestration project permits.

The law requires storage operators to pay a fee of eight cents per metric ton of carbon dioxide injected during the previous calendar year, and the bill ends the Carbon Dioxide Storage Facility Trust Fund and directs the transfer of money in the fund to the State General Fund.

Finally, the legislation directs the department to establish a permit allowing persons to drill or operate carbon dioxide investigatory wells or to convert oil and gas wells for use in carbon dioxide investigations.

KENTUCKY

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB196 | Required Emergency Personnel

Sponsored by Blanton

Reduces the number of emergency medical or mine emergency technicians required to be on shift at every active coal mine from two to one if the number of employees on the shift is 10 or fewer.

HB346 | Stationary ICE Standards

Sponsored by Lewis

Defines “emergency stationary internal combustion engine” and establishes a standard for assessment of emissions fees by the Energy and Environment Cabinet and air pollution control districts.

The stationary engine is defined by the bill as any engine that has no time limits on use in emergency situations, is operated for a maximum of 100 hours per calendar year for all non-emergency purposes (including maintenance checks and readiness testing), and is operated for a maximum of 50 hours per calendar year for non-emergency activities that do not constitute maintenance checks or readiness testing.

LOUISIANA

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB495 | Severance Tax for Horizontally Drilled Wells

Sponsored by Geymann

Limits the duration of the horizontal well severance tax exemption for gas.

The measure changes existing law by retaining the two-year exemption for oil produced from horizontally drilled wells or recompletion wells while shortening the exemption period for gas.

The law reduces the exemption duration for gas produced from wells completed on or after July 1, 2025, to 18 months or until payout of well costs, whichever occurs first.

The legislation defines horizontal drilling to mean high-angle directional bore holes with lateral penetration ranging from several hundred to several thousand feet.

The measure further specifies that horizontal recompletion involves drilling through an existing well bore.

Finally, the law clarifies that cost-payout is determined by the Department of Energy and Natural Resources based on completion costs up to commencement of production.

HB504 | Registration Fees for Trucks Transporting Liquefied Petroleum Gas

Sponsored by Coates

Increases the annual registration fee for tanker trucks transporting liquefied petroleum gas from fifty dollars to one hundred fifty dollars.

HB600 | Severance Tax on Oil

Sponsored by Geymann

Reduces severance tax rates on oil produced from newly completed wells.

The legislation cuts the existing severance tax rate on oil produced from wells completed on or after July 1, 2025, from twelve and one-half percent to six and one-half percent of its value at severance.

The measure also revises special reduced tax rates for oil from certain low-production or aging wells, and the rate for incapable wells is lowered to a flat six and one-quarter percent.

The bill also establishes a revised three-and-one-eighth-percent rate for stripper wells.

The measure applies similar lowered tax tiers to oil from inactive and orphaned wells based on standard well-type definitions and production thresholds. Finally, it specifies that those reductions apply only when wells meet certification criteria managed by the relevant state agencies.

HB692 | State Policy Regarding Energy and Grid Resilience

Sponsored by Landry

Defines statewide energy policy priorities to ensure affordable, reliable, and resilient electricity.

The act directs the Department of Energy and Natural Resources to coordinate with the Public Service Commission and the Department of Economic Development to prioritize energy sources that are domestically produced and infrastructure that minimizes reliance on foreign energy.

The measure seeks to ensure a sufficient supply of renewable energy production sources, as defined in federal law, to meet the needs of Louisiana's businesses and industries while excluding advanced nuclear resources from certain domestic fuel requirements.

The law further requires that energy sources used in power generation be affordable, reliable, cost effective, dispatchable, and utilize energy generated by hydrocarbons, with reliability including the ability to ramp output and maintain grid stability.

Finally, the bill defines green energy to encompass energy sources listed in federal law or hydrocarbons that meet national ambient air quality standards, expressly including nuclear power and natural gas, and it applies this definition uniformly across all state programs funding clean or green energy initiatives.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB304 | Venue for Carbon Capture Claims

Sponsored by Carter and Owen

Provides relative to venue for claims involving expropriation for carbon capture.

The venue for any suit contesting expropriation of immovable property for carbon capture projects must lie exclusively in the district court of the parish in which the property is located.

HB548 | Carbon Dioxide Sequestration Revenues

Sponsored by LaCombe

Dedicates revenue from carbon dioxide sequestration on state property and establishes distributions to parishes and state funds.

The legislation limits the sovereign lands provisions to public lands and certain dried lake beds that remain owned by the state, and it clarifies that these provisions do not apply to property owned by state agencies or local governments.

For property owned by a state agency, the law applies upon commencement of Class VI injection operations for geologic storage and requires the state treasurer to handle injection based revenue after constitutional deposits.

The measure defines injection based revenue to include injection fees, minimum guaranteed payments, and other amounts derived from injection operations, while excluding bonuses, rentals, pipeline rights of way, and payments for surface use or surface facilities.

The bill also directs 30 percent of such revenue to the governing authority of the parish or parishes within the area of review and requires proportional allocation when more than one parish is included.

The remainder must be deposited into the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Fund when the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or its commission is involved and into the state General Fund for other state agencies.

HB691 | Public Safety and Accountability for Carbon Dioxide Sequestration

Sponsored by Carrier

Enhances public safety and accountability for carbon dioxide sequestration operations.

The legislation increases the maximum civil penalty for violations under underground injection control law from \$5,000 to \$200,000 per day and per violation.

The measure mandates more comprehensive incident reporting by operators of Class VI wells or related sequestration facilities; reports must now include the exact location and description of the incident, potential risks to public health, water resources, and land stability, immediate mitigation actions taken, and a timeline for corrective action.

Finally, the law requires these incident reports to be submitted to emergency response teams, local law enforcement, local governing authorities, and made available to the public via an official press release.

SB36 | Carbon Sequestration Considerations

Sponsored by Hensgens

Requires the Commissioner of Conservation to give substantial consideration to comments from local governments when determining the appropriate course of action in any matter that requires a public comment period or hearing concerning the geologic storage of carbon dioxide.

SB73 | Carbon Dioxide Project Requirements

Sponsored by Reese, et al.

Amends existing law to require the Department of Energy and Natural Resources to give substantial consideration to oral or written comments from parish or local governments before approving geologic carbon dioxide storage projects.

The act requires at least 85 percent of surface acreage interests within a proposed sequestration unit to consent in writing before unit approval may proceed.

It also adds a stringent landowner engagement protocol to eminent domain authority by mandating written notice, a reasonable opportunity to be present during appraisal, a minimum of five in-person negotiation attempts, a written offer with reconveyance rights, and a fixed ten-day response window.

Finally, the measure mandates enhanced notice obligations for Class V test wells and Class VI injection well applications, requiring certified mail notification to mineral interest owners, surface owners, and pipeline rights holders, and publication of application notices on the department's website.

SB244 | Department of Conservation and Energy Establishment

Sponsored by Hensgens

Reorganizes state energy governance and consolidates authority under a newly defined department.

The legislation renames the Department of Energy and Natural Resources as the Department of Conservation and Energy. It merges and transfers functions, staff, and resources from existing energy, conservation, water, mineral, and natural resources agencies into a restructured department under a single secretary.

The measure grants expanded powers to the secretary, including the ability to reorganize functions, issue administrative directives, oversee bond issuances, and streamline energy and resource-related governance. It also establishes a Carbon Dioxide Geologic Storage Trust Fund, overseen by the secretary, to manage revenues and fund activities related to carbon dioxide geologic sequestration.

The law asserts exclusive state jurisdiction over water resource management, authorizes comprehensive planning and inspection authority, and enables the use of tax incentives to promote conservation and alternative water use.

The department is granted the power to oversee oilfield site restoration, manage abandoned mine reclamation efforts, and regulate underground storage of energy resources like oil, gas, hydrogen, compressed air, and carbon dioxide. It further consolidates the Natural Resources Trust Authority and the State Mineral and Energy Board under the secretary's purview, including bonding and rulemaking authority.

The legislation preempts local governance over water resources by vesting primary regulatory control in the state.

MAINE

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB1473 | Leak Prevention and Reporting

Sponsored by Warren, Faircloth, Geiger, and Webb

Requires gas utilities to check for and prevent natural gas leaks and mandate reporting of gas leak information.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB39 | Forest Carbon Program Requirements

Sponsored by Pluecker

Directs landowners whose forest land in the state is enrolled in a forest carbon program or project to submit a report to the Director of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

The required report must include the name of the program or project and the developer, the name of the carbon protocol or registry and the project identification number, the legal name and contact information of the landowner(s), the period of enrollment of the forest land, and the total acreage enrolled in the program or project by town, township or plantation.

Geothermal Energy

HB300 | Hydroelectric and Geothermal Study

Sponsored by McIntyre and Collins

Directs the Governor's Energy Office to study expanding the use of hydroelectric power and the development of a geothermal power plant in the state.

HB1619 | Thermal Energy Network Program

Sponsored by Runte and McIntyre

Directs the Governor's Energy Office to solicit information regarding the creation of a thermal energy networks program in Maine.

MARYLAND

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB222/SB175 | Fuel Gas Piping Systems and Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing Provisions

Sponsored by Stein, et al.; Lewis and Brooks

Prohibits the sale, offer for sale, transfer, or distribution of non-arc-resistant jacketed corrugated stainless steel tubing and establishes a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for a violation of the law.

The act also requires the Maryland Department of Labor and the Office of the State Fire Marshal to conduct a study and make recommendations related to preventing the fire hazards associated with commonly used fuel

gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing, in residential and commercial buildings.

SB425 | Coal Combustion By-Products Fees, Coordinating Committee, and Regulations

Sponsored by Jackson

Alters factors considered by the Department of the Environment in establishing fees for coal combustion by-products.

The measure requires excess fees collected from generators of coal combustion by-products to be allocated for remediation, monitoring, and reporting activities.

The Statewide Coal Combustion By-Products Coordinating Committee is established by the law to facilitate information sharing on site monitoring results and remedial actions.

The bill directs the department to adopt regulations detailing fee structures, committee membership, and procedures for oversight.

Geothermal Energy

SB937 | Geothermal as a Renewable Source

Sponsored by Feldman, et al.

Updates the state's energy and utility laws, including the definition of "Tier 1 renewable source."

Under the bill, "geothermal, including energy generated through geothermal exchange from or thermal energy avoided by, groundwater or a shallow ground source" is included among Tier 1 renewable energy sources making it eligible for associated tax incentives and benefits.

MICHIGAN

Hydrocarbon Energy

HR91 | Enbridge Line 5 Project Support

Sponsored by Prestin, et al.

Supports President Trump's policies to increase the nation's energy infrastructure and security, which have facilitated emergency permitting for the Enbridge Line 5 project.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

HR99 | Potash Mining Support

Sponsored by Neyer, Alexander, Fox, and Rigas

Supports President Trump's policies that enable potash mining in Michigan.

MINNESOTA

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB2 | Cost Recovery for Natural Gas Utilities

Sponsored by Frentz

Creates a securitization mechanism under which a natural gas utility may recover “extraordinary event” costs (e.g. natural disasters or major wholesale price spikes) by issuing bonds and charging customers through an “extraordinary event charge,” subject to oversight by the state regulatory commission.

MISSISSIPPI

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB1186 | Natural Gas Piping Systems Testing

Sponsored by Powell

Adds an annual requirement for school facilities (excluding home schools) to conduct a pressure test on their natural gas piping systems before the school year begins or by July 1 for year-round schools.

The test, performed by a qualified plumber, must verify that piping downstream of the meter maintains normal operating pressure over a period determined by the Mississippi Public Service Commission.

Written notice of the date and results must be sent to the gas supplier, who must retain the notice for at least one year.

The measure requires suppliers to discontinue service if notified of hazardous leakage or if required testing is not performed. Identified gas leaks must be reported to the appropriate school board or school authority, and the Public Service Commission is directed to promulgate implementing rules by December 31, 2025.

The act also empowers regulated gas utilities to include financial assistance programs for schools in their efficiency or delivery plans.

SB2368 | Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Standard Penalties

Sponsored by Carter

Prohibits penalties greater than the maximum civil penalty in federal law for natural gas pipeline safety violations.

SB3273 | Sebastopol Natural Gas Expansion

Sponsored by McCaughn

Expands the boundaries of the Sebastopol Natural Gas District to include specified sections in Scott County and authorizes Newton, Leake, and Neshoba Counties to participate by resolution or separate legislation.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

HB246 | Sixteenth Section Land Extensions

Sponsored by Warren

Amends existing law to provide an exception to the reservation of minerals in, on, and under certain sixteenth section lands conveyed for industrial development and to authorize the sale of specified mineral interests or a perpetual waiver of surface use rights.

Enterprises owning or operating qualifying industrial projects may purchase those mineral interests directly from the state.

The act further allows such enterprises to secure a perpetual waiver of the right to use the land's surface for exploration or production of minerals.

MISSOURI

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB4 | Utility and Infrastructure Reform

Sponsored by Cierpiot and Hurlbert

Enacts a comprehensive reform of utility and energy infrastructure regulation, establishes a new subclass of tangible personal property for certain solar energy systems, and modifies assessment methods for natural gas and pipeline infrastructure.

Solar panels, racking systems, inverters, and related solar equipment installed before August 9, 2022 are now defined as “tangible personal property,” and a subclass for such property is created. Assessments for that subclass are fixed at 5 percent of true value.

Further, the measure:

- Removes “new natural gas units” from definition of “qualifying electric plant” for deferral purposes;
- Extends the sunset of deferral provisions for electrical corporations from Dec. 31, 2028, to Dec. 31, 2035;
- Extends deadline for applying for deferrals to Dec 31, 2033 (whole deferral provisions expire Dec. 31, 2040); and
- Excludes investments in new generators and energy storage from the requirement that grid modernization comprise 25 percent of capital investment plan each year.

The act repeals the current maximum penalty provisions under natural gas safety standards, and a new maximum penalty is set consistent with the U.S. Department of Transportation's authority.

The measure expands the Public Service Commission's authority, updates rules on smart meter opt-outs, revises depreciation schedules for utilities, and introduces measures for utility cost recovery, including

construction work in progress. It raises the cap on assessments by the commission to up to 0.45 percent (from 0.315 percent) of gross intrastate operating revenues (excluding telecommunications).

Finally, the measure directs gas corporations to offer a 25 percent discount for four years for incremental load when:

- New customer's projected usage is $\geq 270,000$ hundred cubic feet/year; or
- Existing customers with a projected usage increase of $\geq 135,000$ hundred cubic feet/year.

SB133 | Detecting Underground Facilities

Sponsored by Fitzwater and Hurlbert

Modifies and creates new provisions related to underground facilities.

Under the act, an underground facility owner must ensure that all new and active underground facilities installed on any real property after August 28, 2025, except storm sewers and sanitary sewer mains and laterals installed at depths over six feet, are equipped with a detectable underground location device unless the facility can be located from above ground with an electronic locating device.

The measure reconfigures the notification center's Board of Directors to include four voting directors elected by the board from damage prevention stakeholders within the construction industry (three from heavy civil, site grading, road, or highway contractors and one from a utility or underground contractor) with none employed by an underground facility owner or operator.

The legislation also permits excavators to designate planned excavation routes by physical white lining or electronic white lining through the notification center when locations cannot be clearly identified and requires excavators to notify the center if they discover an unmarked underground facility after markings have been provided.

The law mandates that owners of electric, gas, or pipeline facilities submit annual damage reports to a central repository on the date determined by the Common Ground Alliance and requires design information requests to the notification center at least five working days before the requested delivery date.

It also shields excavators from liability for damaging an underground facility due to incorrect information provided by the facility owner, provided the excavator complied with all safety and notice requirements and there was no visible indication of a mis-marked facility.

MONTANA

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB351 | Clarify Point of Taxation

Sponsored by Sprunger

Clarifies point of taxation for gasoline and special fuels taxes.

The act specifies that the point of taxation is the first licensed distributor who owns the gasoline or special fuel when it is withdrawn from a terminal or refinery in this state or when it is imported into this state.

The law revises definitions of gasoline, special fuel, import, and importer to reflect the point of taxation provisions and to clarify the roles of distributors and importers.

It also provides that gasoline and special fuel may not be exchanged tax-free between licensed distributors more than one time.

HB808 | Montana Brownfields Program

Sponsored by Tuss

Creates the Montana Brownfields Program.

The law defines brownfields and authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality to establish and administer a brownfields program. The department is directed to identify and assess properties suitable for remediation and redevelopment.

The legislation also establishes a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund and authorizes grants and loans to eligible entities for cleanup activities.

HJ17 | Regulatory Burdens Resolution

Sponsored by Fitzpatrick

Urges Congress and the President to undertake actions to promote American energy by reforming and streamlining permitting obligations and repealing or revising environmental regulations and environmental reviews that do not align with national security interests.

The resolution states that orderly production and transmission of the United States' energy resources, unencumbered by unnecessary regulatory burdens, is essential to national security and the well-being of the American people.

Further, it recommends that the Environmental Protection Agency immediately review and, as appropriate, suspend, revise, or rescind regulations promulgated in May 2024, including coal and gas power plant rules that conflict with national energy objectives.

SB339 | Oil and Gas Production Damage Mitigation Account

Sponsored by Zolnikov

Revises the distribution of oil and natural gas production taxes and modifies deposits to the Oil and Gas Production Damage Mitigation Account.

The law directs that, after allocations to special boards and a natural resource distribution account, remaining production tax revenues are deposited into the Oil and Gas Production Damage Mitigation Account, unless that account's unobligated cash balance equals or exceeds \$10 million, in which case funds remain in the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation's expense account or may be transferred by the Legislature for oil and gas impact-related purposes.

The measure establishes a biennial allocation of up to \$650,000 from interest income of the Resource Indemnity Trust Fund to maintain an unobligated balance of at least \$1 million in the Damage Mitigation Account, with any remainder directed to a Natural Resources Projects Fund.

SB365 | Siltation Structure Capacity at Mines

Sponsored by Usher

Revises siltation structure capacity at mines.

Existing law requires operators of strip and underground mines to maintain siltation structures to impound runoff and control sediment.

The bill increases the minimum required storage capacity for those structures to enhance retention of sediment during significant rainfall events.

The measure directs the Department of Environmental Quality to adopt rules updating siltation structure specifications to reflect current best management practices for mine reclamation.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

HR2 | Supporting Critical Minerals in the State

Sponsored by Gregg

Supports the exploration, development, processing, refining, recycling, and reuse of critical minerals in Montana.

SB520 | Mineral Leases on State Lands

Sponsored by Tezak

Lengthens production leases for minerals on state-owned land by requiring a primary term of at least ten years that continues while minerals are produced in commercial quantities.

The measure also extends lease terms when legal challenges or permitting delays prevent a lessee from moving forward as planned.

NEVADA

Hydrocarbon Energy

AB452 | Cost-sharing Adjustments

Sponsored by Brown-May

Requires the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada to open investigatory dockets to study and evaluate a cost-sharing adjustment mechanism for purchased fuel and power costs, potentially shifting a portion of price volatility risk from ratepayers back to utilities.

The bill mandates full refunds with interest to customers when the commission determines a utility has charged more than permitted under applicable rates or tariffs, replacing previous limits or caps on refund periods.

It also revises provisions governing certain general rate-application adjustments and multiple utility filings and reviews, including updates to quarterly and annual adjustment practices and enhanced commission oversight of utility cost recovery processes.

SB417 | Rate-making Framework

Sponsored by Growth and Infrastructure

Establishes a regulatory framework for alternative rate-making plans for natural gas and electric utilities.

The law directs the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada to adopt rules governing how natural gas utilities file applications for alternative rate-making plans.

It also sets forth requirements that such applications must meet before approval is granted.

The measure revises existing provisions related to alternative rate-making plans for electric utilities to align with the new process, and it allows utilities to deploy options such as formula rates and multi-year rate plans.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

SB464 | Interstate Mining Compact

Sponsored by the Senate Finance Committee

Enacts the Interstate Mining Compact into Nevada law.

The measure requires the Division of Minerals within the state's Commission on Mineral Resources to carry out specified duties under the compact, such as:

- Studying mining operations, mining processes, and techniques—including environmental impacts, land restoration, and resource use;
- Making policy or practice recommendations to member states;
- Gathering and sharing data on mining, reclamation, and related issues;
- Cooperating with federal agencies and other public or private entities on mining matters; and
- Consulting with party-states at their request on mining-related problems.

The legislation also establishes rules for inspection of the books, records, and bylaws of the Interstate Mining Commission.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB123 | Timber Tax and Carbon Sequestration Moratorium

Sponsored by Davis, et al.

Defines pre-sequestration timber tax revenue, imposes a moratorium on sequestration contracts, and establishes a study commission.

The act enables municipalities to tax standing timber on properties enrolled in carbon sequestration programs by authorizing payment in lieu of taxes based on average timber revenues prior to enrollment.

It also prohibits entering into new carbon sequestration contracts on enrolled land while the moratorium is in force. The study commission must report on the fiscal effects of carbon sequestration, impacts on timber taxation, forest management practices, and logging industry health.

Geothermal Energy

SB4 | Geothermal Financing

Sponsored by Innis and Reardon

Replaces the prior statute on energy efficiency and clean energy districts.

Under the new Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency Program, municipalities may partner with property owners to finance “qualifying improvements” through a voluntary special assessment. “Qualifying improvements” include clean energy systems, such as biomass and geothermal.

NEW JERSEY

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB3620 | Energy Bill Watch Program

Sponsored by Burzichelli, et al.

Requires electric and gas public utilities to establish an "Energy Bill Watch" program and notify smart meter customers when their electricity or gas usage exceeds customer-established thresholds.

NEW MEXICO

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB9 | Pipeline Safety Act Violations Civil Penalty

Sponsored by Soules

Enhances civil penalties for violations of the Pipeline Safety Act to conform to federal guidelines.

Existing law authorizes the Oil Conservation Commission to enforce the Pipeline Safety Act and to impose civil penalties of up to \$100,000 per violation for each day the violation persists, not to exceed \$1 million for related series of violations.

The legislation replaces the specified penalty amounts in existing law with the maximum civil penalty established under the new law.

The measure requires the commission to give notice of a violation and an opportunity to comply in cases of nonwillful violations and authorizes the commission to seek injunctive relief to secure compliance.

The bill provides that in determining penalty amounts the commission must consider factors including the nature and gravity of the violation, degree of culpability, history of prior violations, effect on business operations, good faith efforts to comply, ability to pay, and other matters as justice may require.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB458 | Carbon Dioxide Storage Stewardship Act

Sponsored by Chatfield, et al.

Establishes the Geologic Carbon Dioxide Long-Term Stewardship Act and fund.

The legislation requires operators of geologic carbon sequestration projects to pay a fee of not less than ten cents per metric ton of carbon dioxide injected and directs deposit of those fees into the Stewardship Fund.

The Oil Conservation Division within the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department is authorized to promulgate rules for enforcement of the act and regulation of geologic carbon sequestration.

The measure enables the Oil Conservation Commission to establish a fee schedule sufficient to meet the projected needs of the fund.

Finally, the legislation permits the State Land Office and other state agencies that own land to grant certifications of closure for sequestration units not less than five years after completion of injection activities.

Geothermal Energy

HB361 | Repurposing Oil and Gas Wells

Sponsored by Romero

Enables the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department to authorize the repurposing of depleted oil and gas wells for energy storage or geothermal energy development.

The bill directs the well to be plugged if such usage is nonviable.

NEW YORK

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB824 | Climate Change Adaptation Cost Recovery Program

Sponsored by Krueger and Jackson

Increases the overall cost-recovery target for “repairing from and preparing for climate change-driven extreme events” from \$3 billion to \$75 billion and clarifies that this is a total amount rather than a recurring annual figure.

The act also extends the covered period for historical greenhouse gas emissions from 2000–2018 to 2000–2024, allowing more recent emissions to be included in the program's calculations. It specifies that payments are based on emissions attributable to fossil fuels, not just their products, and by changing references from a rate to a cost recovery amount.

Geothermal Energy

AB3009 | Geothermal System Tax Credit

Sponsored by the House Budget Committee

Creates an incentive such that taxpayers who install a “qualified geothermal energy system” can get a tax credit equal to 25 percent of their geothermal-system expenditures.

NORTH CAROLINA

Hydrocarbon Energy

S266 | The Power Bill Reduction Act

Sponsored by Moffitt, et al.

Eliminates the interim carbon reduction target that required public utilities to reduce emissions by 70 percent by 2030 relative to 2005 levels.

The act replaces that target with a directive for utilities to take all reasonable steps toward carbon neutrality by 2050 without an interim deadline.

The measure authorizes recovery of financing costs associated with construction work in progress for baseload electric generating facilities through alternative cost-recovery mechanisms reviewed annually.

It expands fuel and fuel-related cost recovery to include broader categories of costs, including emissions-related inputs and all delivered power charges, subject to annual caps and allocation across customer classes.

The bill strengthens oversight by requiring the utilities commission to review construction costs on a rolling twelve-month basis and to hold hearings on prudence and reasonableness of expenses.

S387 | Brownfields Property Reuse Act Revisions

Sponsored by McInnis, Moffitt, and Jarvis

Establishes a new compliance fee assessed to any prospective developer or property owner subject to a recorded Notice of Brownfields Property who fails to fulfill requirements under the reuse agreement.

The act authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to set a fee schedule against noncompliance, eliminating the existing two-installment payment structure and thereby enhancing cost recovery mechanisms.

The measure revises the definition of “qualifying improvements” eligible for the brownfields tax exclusion, limiting eligibility to improvements made after DEQ confirms written eligibility for a brownfields agreement.

It continues the partial tax exclusion for qualifying improvements over five taxable years while explicitly permitting successive exclusion periods for separate development phases.

NORTH DAKOTA

Hydrocarbon Energy

SB2117 | Abandoned Mine Abatement

Sponsored by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Creates a special fund in the state treasury called the state abandoned mine reclamation safeguarding treatment for the restoration of ecosystems from abandoned mines fund set-aside trust account.

Revenue to the set-aside trust account must be no more than 30 percent of the annual amount granted by the Secretary of Interior. The account must be interest bearing and all interest must be credited to the safeguarding treatment for the restoration of ecosystems from abandoned mines fund set-aside trust account.

According to the measure, the funds from this account may be expended for:

- The abatement of the causes and treatment of the effects of acid mine drainage resulting from coal mining practices, including costs of building, operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating acid mine drainage treatment systems;
- The prevention, abatement, and control of subsidence; or
- The prevention abatement, and control of coal mine fires.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB1279 | Coal Conversion Facilities Taxation

Sponsored by Novak, et al.

Establishes a partial exemption from the coal conversion facilities tax and imposes a lignite research tax in its place.

The legislation extends the existing exemption from the state's share of the coal conversion privilege tax while phasing it out gradually over a five-year period beginning July 1, 2026.

The exemption schedule phases from 90 percent in 2026–27 to 35 percent by 2030–31.

The law shifts tax allocations by redirecting portions from the General Fund to the legacy fund for carbon dioxide capture incentives.

It also includes provisions that allow coal conversion facilities to exclude income from the sale and transportation of carbon dioxide used for enhanced oil or natural gas recovery when computing taxable gross receipts.

Facilities capturing a minimum of 20 percent of CO₂ emissions are eligible for a 20 percent exemption of the state's tax share, with an additional one percent exemption for each additional 2 percent captured, up to a maximum of 50 percent, over a 10-year period.

HCR3016 | Favoring CCS and EOR

Sponsored by Novak, et al.

Encourages the state and federal government to maintain favorable policies that support the development of carbon capture technology and utilization of carbon dioxide as a commodity for advancing energy security as well as enhanced oil recovery.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

HB1459 | Critical Minerals and Rare Earth Minerals Definitions

Sponsored by Anderson, et al.

Establishes regulatory definitions and a permitting framework for critical minerals and rare earth elements embedded in coal seams, along with royalty provisions and retroactive application.

The legislation defines “critical minerals” and “rare earth elements” occurring in coal deposits and grants authority to the Public Service Commission to oversee their extraction and reclamation.

The measure requires operators to obtain permits, furnish bonds, file production reports, protect freshwater and environmental safety, reclaim land, and allow the commission to inspect facilities and adopt necessary rules. It mandates a royalty of two and one-half percent of net profits from the sale of these minerals to owners, excluding coal itself.

Finally, the bill amends conveyance law by clarifying that unless excluded in writing, conveyances grant all minerals, and it enables voluntary lease renegotiation to reflect the inclusion of critical minerals or rare earths.

SB2302 | Modifications to State Land Leases

Sponsored by Patten, et al.

Authorizes the Board of University and School Lands to cancel leases when a lessee intentionally fails to pursue or blocks development of natural resources, such as critical minerals and rare earth elements, on leased lands.

The legislation clarifies that the board’s authority to set and enforce lease terms supersedes prior law provisions that limited lease cancellation or modification.

Geothermal Energy

SB2360 | Geothermal Energy Study

Sponsored by Hogan, Cory, and Patten

Calls for a legislative management study regarding geothermal energy.

OKLAHOMA

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB1369 | Financial Ability for Drilling and Operating Wells

Sponsored by Boles, Green, Waldron, and Boren

Requires surety bonds posted by oil and gas operators to be based on the number of wells they operate and modifies the required bond amounts.

For operators of one to ten wells, the bond amount is set at \$25,000. Operators managing between eleven and fifty wells must post a bond of \$50,000. Those with 51-100 wells are required to maintain a bond of \$100,000. Companies operating more than one hundred wells must secure a bond of \$150,000. The Corporation Commission retains authority to demand a higher bond from operators based on past performance while capping the maximum at \$150,000.

HB1372 | Gross Production Tax Exemption for Production from Certain Wells

Sponsored by Boles, Green, and Waldron

Grants a 50 percent discount on gross production taxes due for the first 36 months of production from wells on the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's orphaned well list.

The legislation requires a producer overseeing a recovery project for an orphaned well to file a \$25,000 security interest with the Secretary of State to be held in interest for the commission's Well Plugging Fund.

SB132 | Corporation Commission Jurisdiction

Sponsored by Burns, Boles, Waldron, and Green

Directs operators of idle gas wells to plug or produce from specified wells by a statutory deadline.

The measure clarifies the Corporation Commission's jurisdiction over wells that have been inactive for 10 years.

SB460 | Natural Gas Energy Standard

Sponsored by Green and Boles

Removes the prior expiration date and permanently designates natural gas as the preferred choice for new electric generation facilities.

It also declares that promoting natural gas energy development is in the public interest and recognizes the compatibility of natural gas with renewable resources such as wind energy.

SB897 | Termination Date of Well Plugging Fund

Sponsored by Bergstrom and Kendrix

Extends the termination date for the Corporation Commission's Well Plugging Fund from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2031.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

SB269 | Carbon Sequestration Jurisdiction

Sponsored by Rader and Luttrell

Modifies regulatory jurisdiction over certain injection wells and creates provisions for the siting and operation of carbon dioxide sequestration facilities and storage units.

The measure transfers regulatory authority for specified CO₂ injection wells from the Corporation Commission to the Department of Environmental Quality. It also authorizes the establishment of sequestration facilities, setting criteria for site selection, permit issuance, and operational standards for storage units.

The law directs the department to adopt rules governing monitoring, reporting, and financial assurance for all sequestration activities.

SB469 | Oklahoma Emission Reduction Technology Rebate Program Eligibility

Sponsored by Woods, Boles, and Adams

Modifies the Emission Reduction Technology Rebate Program to refine eligibility criteria for rebate payments.

According to the law, applicants must submit documentation of in-state project expenditures to the Department of Environmental Quality within six months after the end of the fiscal year in which implementation was completed and no later than six months prior to program cessation.

The legislation establishes a preliminary review process allowing applicants to obtain provisional approval before incurring project expenses. Applicants are required to file all state tax returns and to maintain a certificate of general liability insurance with minimum coverage of \$1 million and a workers compensation policy as mandated by law.

The Department of Environmental Quality will approve or disapprove all rebate claims and notify the Tax Commission, which will issue payments proportionally if available funds are insufficient.

OREGON

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB3179 | Rate Impact Review

Sponsored by Sosa, et al.

Requires an electric or natural gas company to file an analysis of the cumulative economic impact on the company's residential ratepayers if the company's return on equity is subject to review and modification.

The measure authorizes the Public Utility Commission to adjust rates to mitigate an increase in residential customer rates if the increase would affect the ability of customers to maintain adequate utility services.

SB65 | Hydrogen Additives Notification Requirement

Sponsored by Pham, et al.

Directs a public utility to obtain authorization from the Public Utility Commission to develop or carry out a project that involves the production or use of hydrogen in this state.

The act requires a natural gas utility to provide notice to each customer of the utility and the Public Utility Commission if the utility plans to increase the amount of hydrogen that the utility blends with natural gas and the ratio of the volume of hydrogen to the volume of natural gas will be greater than 2.5 percent.

A natural gas utility that has a program for blending hydrogen with natural gas is required to maintain on the utility's website information regarding the utility's program and how a customer may communicate with the utility about the utility's program.

Geothermal Energy

SB836 | Drilling and Extraction Fees

Sponsored by the Senate President

Increases several fees administered by the state agency that oversees geothermal deployment, drilling and subsurface exploration.

The measure raises the nonrefundable application costs for transfer-well permits, information-hole permits, and seismic-program permits, and it increases the maximum cost-estimation review fee for proposed prospect wells. The bill also raises the annual renewal fee for existing drilling permits and adjusts the renewal cap for general exploration permits.

PUERTO RICO

Hydrocarbon Energy

H267-2025 | Coal Phase-out Extension

Sponsored by Núñez and Miembros PNP

Amends the 2019 Energy Public Policy Act in order to, among other minor changes, extend the coal phase-out date to December 31, 2032.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Hydrocarbon Energy

H3571 | Underground Facility Damage Prevention

Sponsored by Hiott, et al.

Specifies notice requirements for excavations and demolitions, including additional timeframes and requirements for notices of intent prior to commencement.

The act requires excavators to immediately report damages to both the notification center and facility operators and to submit quarterly damage reports.

Enhanced notification and response protocols for emergency excavations are established by the bill, and it designates false emergency claims as violations of the chapter.

The bill also provides a complaint process, imposes civil penalties for notice violations, and revises exemptions from notice requirements.

H4376/S370 | Williams Transco Southeast Supply Enhancement Project

Sponsored by Herbkersman, et al.; Gambrell, et al.

Express support for the Williams Transco Southeast Supply Enhancement Project, which aims to increase access to natural gas and expand energy capacity to meet growing demand in addition to creating jobs for South Carolinians.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB1052 | Eminent Domain Provisions

Sponsored by Lapka, et al.

Prohibits the exercise of eminent domain for a pipeline that carries carbon oxide.

TENNESSEE

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB123 | Liens on Abandoned Mine Lands

Sponsored by Lamberth, Cochran, and Powers

Requires notification to property owners before filing a lien on abandoned mine lands, directs the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Conservation to inform owners of the proposed lien amount and available options, and ensures that documentation is provided at least thirty days prior to lien filing.

SB1274 | Regulating Coal Combustion Residuals

Sponsored by Johnson and Walley

Defines changes to fees for environmental regulatory programs and modifies the regulation of coal combustion residuals disposal units.

The measure raises the maximum per-ton fee that the Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas is authorized to set for non-Title V sources from \$18.75 to \$38.00 per year.

It also removes coal combustion residuals disposal units from the scope of fees governed by the Tennessee Environmental Protection Fund.

The act further authorizes the board and the Air Pollution Control Board to adopt rules establishing fees within the new statutory limits.

Finally, the law maintains reimbursement of administrative and enforcement costs for coal combustion residuals activities by the Tennessee Valley Authority outside the Environmental Protection Fund.

Geothermal Energy

HB1143 | Renewable Energy Requirements

Sponsored by Boyd, et al.

Clarifies that a political subdivision that imposes requirements or expectations related to the type of clean, green, or renewable energy used by a public utility in an ordinance, resolution, or other regulation must include certain sources of energy as permissible sources of clean, green, or renewable energy, regardless of whether the political subdivision classifies the requirements or expectations as relating to clean, green, or renewable energy.

The approved sources listed by the bill are solar energy, photovoltaic cells and panels, hydropower, wind power, hydrogen fuel, nuclear power, natural gas, fuel cells, energy from waste to energy facilities, energy storage systems or technologies, geothermal energy, dedicated crops grown for energy production, industrial byproduct technologies that use process heat or fuel as a byproduct, waste heat recovery for heating or work, combined heat and power systems, pumped storage hydropower, compressed air energy storage, biomass, and renewable natural gas.

TEXAS

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB49 | Oil and Gas Waste Liability Protections

Sponsored by Darby, et al.

Amends existing law to extend liability protections to persons who produce, treat, or convey fluid oil and gas waste for beneficial use.

The law protects oil and gas producers, surface estate owners, treatment facilities, and third parties that transfer waste to treatment facilities from tort liability for harm arising from treatment, subsequent use, or exposure to treated waste or byproducts.

The measure narrows the exception to the liability protection so that an indemnified party may be liable only for gross negligence, intentional wrongdoing, or failure to comply with relevant administrative rules.

Finally, the bill prohibits the award of exemplary damages in tort claims premised solely on negligence and regulatory nonconformity.

HB143 | Addressing Operator Failure

Sponsored by King, et al.

Grants the Railroad Commission and the Public Utility Commission authority to address operator failures to maintain electrical power lines serving oil and gas well sites in compliance with the National Electrical Code.

The measure requires the agencies to adopt enforcement rules, including notices of violation, correction orders, and administrative penalties for noncompliance.

HB1109 | Motor Fuel Tax Exemptions

Sponsored by Vandever, et al.

Authorizes the comptroller to refund or exempt motor fuel taxes for county purchases meant for the exclusive use of the county.

HB2663 | Operator Affirmation Requirements

Sponsored by Darby, et al.

Establishes affirmation requirements for operators applying to the Railroad Commission for an extension of the deadline to plug an inactive well.

Operators must submit a sworn affirmation detailing compliance history, well condition, and reasons for the requested extension, and the bill authorizes the commission to impose an administrative penalty on operators who knowingly submit false or misleading affirmations.

HB2890 | Interstate Compact for Liquefied Natural Gas Industry

Sponsored by Patterson, et al.

Establishes an interstate compact for the liquefied natural gas industry among states bordering the Gulf of America.

The act authorizes the Governor to develop and execute the compact on behalf of this state.

It specifies that congressional approval is not required and prohibits the compact from increasing the political power of the compacting states relative to the federal government.

The compact is required to include joint actions among member states for sharing information, resources, and services to protect and grow the industry and to improve coordination and efficiency of the liquefied natural gas industry along the Gulf Coast.

HB3159 | Severance Tax Exemption for Oil and Gas

Sponsored by Darby and King

Utilizes existing law to enable exemption of severance taxes on oil and gas produced from qualifying wells that were previously inactive and have undergone restimulation treatment.

The bill limits the exemption to the earlier of 36 consecutive months from first post-treatment production or when exempted taxes equal either the restimulation costs or \$750,000.

HB4042 | Pipeline Safety Provisions and Regulatory Fees

Sponsored by Morales and Zaffirini

Extends safety and regulatory fee provisions to cover gas distribution pipelines.

The legislation amends existing law to allow the Railroad Commission of Texas, by rule, to assess an annual gas pipeline safety fee of \$1 per service line.

It applies these safety provisions and regulatory fee structures that previously applied to natural gas to now also include gas distribution pipelines.

HB4384 | Gas Utility Cost Recovery

Sponsored by Darby and Birdwell

Permits gas utilities to include costs of newly placed plant, facilities, or equipment in customer rates without waiting for a full rate case.

The legislation directs the Railroad Commission to adopt rules specifying eligible cost categories, prudence review standards, and refund mechanisms if costs are later deemed imprudent.

The law applies only to investments placed in service on or after the bill's effective date and requires utilities to file cost-recovery notices with supporting documentation.

HB4690 | Motor Fuel Measuring, Quality, and Testing Standards

Sponsored by Gerdes and Blanco

Requires motor fuel sold in the state to meet the most recently adopted, nationally recognized ASTM International petroleum standards, with separate specifications for gasoline and gasoline-ethanol blends.

The measure authorizes exceptions to the quality standards to account for seasonal volatility variations, vapor pressure tolerances for ethanol blends, and fuel distribution during specified transition periods.

SB494 | Theft of Petroleum Products Task Force

Sponsored by Sparks, et al.

Establishes a task force to study and make recommendations related to preventing the theft of petroleum products in this state.

Membership includes at least one representative from the oil and gas industry, one from an energy trade association, and members of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. A presiding officer must be designated by the Railroad Commission of Texas to lead the task force. Task force meetings are required at least quarterly and may be conducted virtually through the Internet.

Ongoing duties involve reviewing laws and regulations from other jurisdictions, analyzing the impact of petroleum product theft on sales tax and the long-term economy, and evaluating strategies to reduce theft.

Task force recommendations must address outreach and prevention programs, stakeholder coordination among industry and law enforcement, and training for officers and prosecutors, according to the measure.

SB612 | Conservation and Reclamation District Fees

Sponsored by Hinojosa and Martinez

Establishes authority for eligible conservation and reclamation districts to impose fees on the construction of pipelines and associated infrastructure located within their boundaries.

Under the measure fees must reflect actual, reasonable, and documented costs incurred by the district in connection with pipeline development.

Where engineering or construction standards are applied, the bill prohibits districts from imposing charges that exceed the directly incurred costs necessary to apply those standards.

SB771 | Refund for Diesel Fuel Taxes

Sponsored by Hinojosa and Ashby

Establishes a refundable credit or refund for diesel fuel taxes paid on diesel fuel consumed by auxiliary power units and power take-off equipment.

The measure requires taxpayers to apply to the comptroller for the credit or refund and to maintain documentation substantiating the qualifying fuel use.

SB1145 | Permits for the Land Application of Produced Water

Sponsored by Birdwell, et al.

Authorizes the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to issue permits for the land application of water produced from certain mining, oil, and gas extraction operations.

The legislation requires the commission to adopt standards for land application of treated produced water that prevent pollution of surface and subsurface water.

SB1150 | Inactive Wells Deadlines

Sponsored by Middleton, et al.

Limits plugging extensions for long-inactive oil, gas, and injection wells under Railroad Commission oversight.

Operators of wells inactive for more than fifteen years and completed over twenty-five years prior must now either plug or reactivate the well by a deadline set by law.

Extensions may be granted only when operators demonstrate a consistent record of reactivating wells, attest to financial hardship, submit a compliant plan approved by the Railroad Commission targeting plugging or reactivation by September 1, 2042, or post an individual performance bond covering full plugging cost that remains with the well regardless of ownership changes.

SB1762 | Operator Designation

Sponsored by Blanco and Darby

Allows the Railroad Commission to designate a qualified person as operator of an orphaned oil or gas well when the original operator cannot be located or held responsible.

That designee must demonstrate technical competence, financial ability to plug and abandon the well, and compliance with all applicable rules, according to the legislation.

The measure requires posting of a bond or other financial assurance by the designated operator to cover full plugging, abandonment, and site remediation costs.

It also authorizes the commission to recover any costs exceeding the bond from the original operator if located later, while protecting new operators from liability for unrelated wells.

SB1806 | Improper Inspection Penalties

Sponsored by Sparks, Craddick, and Darby

Creates criminal offenses for improper inspection, purchase, sale, possession, storage, transportation, or disposal of petroleum products, oil and gas equipment, and oil and gas waste, and increases the punishment for an existing criminal offense.

The measure mandates inspection requirements for petroleum products, oil and gas equipment, and related waste, assigning criminal penalties for noncompliance.

It also prohibits unauthorized purchase, sale, or possession of designated petroleum materials and equipment, defining those acts as offenses.

The law requires proper storage, transportation, and disposal practices for oil and gas waste, and it establishes penalties for violations.

SB2037 | Liquefied Natural Gas Export Terminal Permitting

Sponsored by Sparks, et al.

Authorizes expedited review and fee assessment for liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal permits.

The legislation directs the Public Utility Commission to establish an expedited review process for permit applications to construct or modify LNG export terminals, and it requires applicants opting into the expedited process to pay an additional fee set by rule to cover review costs.

SB2122 | Permit Application Fees

Sponsored by Zaffirini, Darby, and Morales

Imposes application fees for certain permits and permit amendments for the disposal of oil and gas waste.

Applicants for fluid injection well permits must submit a nonrefundable fee of \$200. Land application, landfarm, and landtreatment permits are likewise subject to the fee requirement.

The legislation requires fee payment with each initial application and with any amendments to covered permits. Revenue from the fees is deposited to the oil and gas regulation account under the Natural Resources Code.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

SB1061 | Requirements for Uranium Mining Production Area Authorizations

Sponsored by Parker and Guillen

Establishes procedural requirements for uranium mining production area authorization under the Water Code.

Districts seeking to construct or expand uranium recovery or mining facilities must comply with a defined application process prior to operation, according to the bill.

Details on timelines, required documentation, and stakeholder notification are added by the measure to ensure permit applications are complete and transparent.

SB1146 | Well Plugging Operators

Sponsored by Birdwell, et al.

Authorizes operators in good standing, mineral estate owners, and surface estate owners to contract with commission-approved well pluggers for the plugging or replugging of orphaned wells under Railroad Commission jurisdiction.

SB1147 | Withdrawal of the State from the Interstate Mining Compact

Sponsored by Birdwell, Dyson, Capriglione, and Darby

Withdraws the State of Texas from the Interstate Mining Compact and abolishes the Office of the Interstate Mining Compact Commissioner for Texas and the Texas Mining Council.

Geothermal Energy

HB4370 | Geothermal Water and Affordable Housing Projects

Sponsored by Metcalf, et al.

Expands the types of projects that may be undertaken by certain districts to include geothermal water conveyance and affordable housing.

The bill revises existing law to permit an improvement district to pay expenses related to the operation and maintenance of geothermal water conveyance facilities.

The law amends assessment provisions to include geothermal water conveyance facilities among the utility and infrastructure projects a district may finance and maintain.

Water control and improvement districts are authorized to purchase, construct, own, and operate geothermal water conveyance systems, and to finance those systems with bonds secured by ad valorem taxes or other revenues, subject to voter approval.

SB879 | Geothermal Well Regulatory Requirements

Sponsored by Birdwell, Blanco, Darby, and Guerra

Creates an exemption for drillers or operators of closed-loop geothermal injection wells from certain regulatory requirements that normally apply under the jurisdiction of the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC).

UTAH

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB18 | Petroleum Storage Tank Amendments

Sponsored by Eliason and Hinkins

Updates Utah's petroleum storage tank regulatory framework by broadening the regulatory language to include both aboveground and underground tanks.

It further revises definitions, updates registration and compliance requirements, adjusts fee schedules and penalties, and strengthens oversight through compliance certification.

The measure also enhances accountability for installation companies and empowers the Department of Environmental Quality to ensure the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund remains financially solvent.

HB70 | Decommissioned Asset Disposition Amendments

Sponsored by Walter and Owens

Revises state law governing the decommissioning and disposal of electrical generation facilities and equipment by project entities.

The measure establishes definitions for key terms such as "decommissioning," "disposal," "project entity asset," and "critical switchyard equipment," and mandates that a project entity must provide at least 180 days' notice to the Legislative Management Committee before decommissioning coal-fueled generation facilities or disposing of related assets.

The bill prohibits project entities from intentionally disabling station service power, disconnecting or altering interconnections or switchyard equipment, or initiating actions that require a new interconnection request and requires that at least one coal generation unit remain connected via existing interconnection infrastructure.

Further, it grants the state a two year fair-market-value purchase option for decommissioned assets beginning July 2, 2025.

The legislation also creates the Utah Energy Council, repeals the former Decommissioned Asset Disposition Authority, and transfers responsibilities to the new council.

The council is empowered to develop strategic plans, manage and enter into contracts for decommissioned assets, select facility operators via a competitive process based on set qualifications, and report annually to legislative and interim committees.

SB207 | Local Impact Mitigation Tax Act

Sponsored by Winterton and Walter

Enacts the Local Impact Mitigation Tax Act, which establishes a state-local tax framework to address the impacts of oil and gas development.

Beginning May 7, 2025, with tax collection starting January 1, 2026, and concluding January 1, 2029, the bill requires oil and gas producers to pay a mitigation tax on in-state production.

The State Tax Commission may retain up to 1.5 percent of revenues for administrative costs and must allocate the remainder to county governments.

Counties cannot impose duplicate fees but must report how they use the funds.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

HB352 | Geologic Carbon Storage Amendments

Sponsored by Watkins and Winterton

Clarifies that the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining has enforcement authority over Class VI injection wells upon receiving primacy from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The measure provides for civil and criminal penalties for violations established by the board and the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, and it requires the board and the division to bring an enforcement action within two years of discovering a violation.

VIRGINIA

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB1579 | Extend Local Gas Severance Tax Authority

Sponsored by Morefield

Extends from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2028, the expiration date for provisions permitting any county or city to impose a license tax at a rate not to exceed one percent on every person engaged in the business of severing gases from the earth for the purposes of funding improvements to public roads or as otherwise provided for the Virginia Coalfield Economic Development Authority.

HB1948 | Create Abandoned Mine Land Grant Retention Fund

Sponsored by Bulova and Simonds

Establishes the Abandoned Mine Land Grant Retention Fund and requires any eligible designated funds received under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to be deposited into the fund.

The bill authorizes the Director of the Department of Energy to provide grants for certain projects described in the federal Act relating to the protection of public health, safety, and property from the adverse effects of coal mining practices.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

HB1887/SB969 | Mineral Mining Rules and Cyanide Prohibition

Sponsored by Bloxom; Stuart

Amends the definition of surface mineral mine in the Mineral Mine Safety Act to exclude excavation or grading when conducted solely in aid of onsite farming or construction and under certain conditions enumerated in the bill.

The bill amends the definition of mining in existing law, relating to the exemption from permits for a mining operation, to extend the required completion time from six months to one year for excavation or grading conducted to construct or expand a farm pond for agricultural irrigation or provision of water for livestock.

The measure also revises the qualification requirements for mineral mine inspectors, removes references to the defunct Board of Mineral Mining Examiners, and prohibits the issuance of any permit for a mineral mining or processing operation that includes the use of cyanide or a cyanide compound.

Geothermal Energy

SB1316 | Geothermal Renewable Portfolio Standard Eligibility

Sponsored by McPike

Provides that geothermal electric generating resources located in the state or physically located within the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland region are eligible for compliance with renewable portfolio standard requirements.

WASHINGTON

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB1329 | Wholesale Power Purchases

Sponsored by Hunt, et al.

Defines eligible wholesale power purchases under the Clean Energy Transformation Act.

The law specifies that electric utilities subject to the Clean Energy Transformation Act may enter into new wholesale power purchase agreements only for resources that qualify as nonemitting or renewable under existing law.

The measure prohibits utilities from procuring power from coal-fired generation facilities after December 31, 2025.

Further, it requires utilities to notify the Utilities and Transportation Commission of any new or amended wholesale power contracts and to demonstrate how each contract contributes toward the utility's compliance requirements.

Finally, the bill allows the commission to grant limited exceptions for resource reliability, provided that any included contract term does not extend the use of nonqualifying resources beyond the applicable compliance deadlines.

HB1409 | Clean Fuels Program Revisions

Sponsored by Fitzgibbon, et al.

Updates the state Clean Fuels Program by revising requirements for reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuels.

The bill amends statutory definitions, clarifies program terminology, and restructures provisions governing compliance, reporting, and enforcement. It also establishes detailed procedures for calculating carbon intensity, generating and transacting credits, and determining deficits.

HB1912 | Fuel Exemptions

Sponsored by Dent, et al.

Establishes an exemption for fuels used for agricultural purposes under the Climate Commitment Act.

The legislation amends the Climate Commitment Act to allow diesel, propane, and biodiesel used in agricultural operations to be exempt from the program's requirements.

Geothermal Energy

HB1514 | Thermal Energy Jurisdiction

Sponsored by Ramel, et al.

Brings thermal energy companies under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

The act allows electric utilities to provide discounted rates to companies operating thermal energy networks under certain conditions with UTC authorization.

WEST VIRGINIA

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB3336 | Well Plugging Methods

Sponsored by Zatezalo, et al.

Amends existing law to eliminate the requirement for a four-and-one-half-inch casing in modern or later-day well plugging operations and the mandatory removal of intermediate or surface casings for non-modern or older oil and gas wells, provided that all other plugging requirements are satisfied.

HB3429 | Prequalifying Consultants for Abandoned Mine Lands

Sponsored by Riley

Establishes a process for prequalifying consultants under the Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation Act.

The bill defines eligibility criteria for consultant firms, including technical qualifications, experience thresholds, and financial solvency requirements, and it requires public advertisement of consultant opportunities, specifying publication methods and minimum notice periods to ensure transparency and competitive selection.

The legislation clarifies prequalification agreement terms by detailing the duration of eligibility, renewal procedures, and grounds for suspension or removal of consultants, and it further establishes directives for assigning reclamation projects to prequalified consultants, prioritizing assignments based on project type, consultant workload, and regional expertise.

SB22 | Penalties for Nonpayment of Royalties

Sponsored by Smith, Woelfel, and Hamilton

Provides enhanced damages for nonpayment of royalties due from oil, natural gas, or natural gas liquids production under the terms of a lease or other agreement.

The bill provides for treble damages equal to three times the market value of the extracted minerals when royalties remain unpaid for six months, unless there is a bona fide dispute or alternative written agreement.

The measure also establishes proper jurisdiction and venue for actions to recover unpaid royalties under the new law, and it entitles the prevailing party in any such action to recover reasonable attorney's fees and court costs.

SB573 | Restrictions on Use or Sale of Motor Vehicles Based on Power Source

Sponsored by Queen, et al.

Prohibits state agencies and political subdivisions from restricting the use, purchase, or sale of motor vehicles based on the energy source used for propulsion or other functions.

SB883 | Director of WV Office of Miners' Health, Safety, and Training Authority

Sponsored by Phillips

Allows the director of the West Virginia Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training discretion and authority in the appointment of surface mine inspectors, mine safety instructors, electrical inspectors, and underground mine inspectors.

SB942 | Requirements for Diesel-powered Equipment in Mines

Sponsored by Rose, et al.

Modifies existing law to authorize the use and movement of diesel-powered equipment in underground coal mines under specified compliance and notification requirements.

The legislation requires diesel-powered equipment to be approved, operated, and maintained in accordance with rules, requirements, and standards established in West Virginia Code. It allows diesel-powered equipment to be moved between mines within or into the state and operated immediately, provided the equipment complies with existing code provisions and the Director of the Office of Miners' Health, Safety, and Training is notified before it is put into service.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

SB627 | Removing Prohibition Against Leasing State-owned Pore Space Underlying State Parks

Sponsored by Jeffries, et al.

Removes the prohibition against leasing state-owned pore spaces underlying lands designated as state parks.

WYOMING

Hydrocarbon Energy

HB75 | Coal Severance Tax Rate

Sponsored by Angelos, et al.

Reduces the severance tax rate for surface coal from 6.5 percent to 6 percent.

SF15 | Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Regulation of Pits

Sponsored by Minerals, Business and Economic Development

Extends the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission's ability to regulate noncommercial reserve pits, produced water retention pits, and emergency overflow pits that are not located on a lease, unit, or communitized area.

SF20 | Oil and Gas Bonding Options and Bonding Pools

Sponsored by Minerals, Business and Economic Development

Requires the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission to promulgate rules to establish a bonding pool program for oil and gas operators in Wyoming.

In addition to traditional bonding options that are required, operators may voluntarily participate in the bonding pool created in the act.

The bonding pool serves as a financial assurance for the plugging of dry or abandoned wells, any reclamation requirements, the forfeiture of any applicable bond (including federal bonds), and any other associated bonding requirements.

Carbon Capture & Related Technology

SF17 | CO₂-enhanced Oil Recovery Stimulus

Sponsored by Minerals, Business and Economic Development

Provides an enhanced oil recovery stimulus to any person who provides carbon dioxide captured in Wyoming for use in enhanced oil recovery operations.

To receive the credit, the capture and utilization of carbon dioxide must qualify for and receive the 45Q federal tax credit.

The measure states the stimulus amount to be \$10 for each ton of carbon dioxide captured and utilized for enhanced oil recovery.

Critical Minerals & Rare Earth Elements

SF138 | Mineral and Energy Production Study

Sponsored by Heiner, Anderson, and Dockstader

Requires Wyoming Energy Authority to complete a study assessing the economic impact of Wyoming's energy industry.

The study must cover, at a minimum:

- The types of mineral and energy production throughout the state;
- The economic impact of energy and mineral production both by region and statewide, broken out by type of energy or mineral;
- The state and local taxes that energy producers and generators have contributed annually over the last ten years;
- The number of employees in the energy industry and the annual payroll; and
- Other economic benefits derived from the energy industry.

ABOUT US

The Southern States Energy Board (SSEB) is a non-profit interstate compact organization created in 1960 and established under Public Laws 87-563 and 92-440. Sixteen southern states and two territories comprise the membership of SSEB: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, US Virgin Islands, Virginia, and West Virginia. Each jurisdiction is represented by the governor and a legislator from the House and Senate. A governor serves as the chair and legislators serve as vice-chair and treasurer. Ex-officio non-voting Board members include a federal representative appointed by the President of the United States, the Southern Legislative Conference Energy and Environment Committee Chair, and SSEB's executive director, who serves as secretary.

SSEB was created by state law and consented to by Congress with a broad mandate to contribute to the economic and community well-being of the southern region. The Board exercises this mandate through the creation of programs in the fields of energy and environmental policy research, development and implementation, science and technology exploration, and related areas of concern. SSEB serves its members directly by providing timely assistance designed to develop effective energy and environmental policies and programs and represents its members before governmental agencies at all levels.

OUR GOALS

- Perform essential services that provide direct scientific and technical assistance to state and territorial governments;
- Develop, promote, and recommend policies and programs on energy, environment, and economic development that encourage sustainable growth;
- Provide technical assistance to executive and legislative policy-makers and the private sector in order to achieve synthesis of energy, environment, and economic issues that ensure energy security and supply;
- Facilitate the implementation of energy and environmental policies between federal, state, territory, and local governments and the private sector;
- Sustain business development throughout the region by eliminating barriers to the use of efficient energy and environmental technologies; and
- Support improved energy-efficient technologies that contribute to a clean global environment while protecting indigenous natural resources for future generations.



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