

Overview of EPC Statutory Requirements

Energy Policy Council (EPC)

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Legislative Authority

- North Carolina General Statutes
- Chapter 113B. North Carolina Energy Policy Act of 1975
- Article 1. Energy Policy Council
- NCGS § 113B-1 through § 113B-12

https://www.ncleg.gov/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/ByChapter/Chapter_113B.html

§ 113B-1. Legislative Purpose

- Energy is essential to the health, safety, welfare, and economic wellbeing of the State.
- In the State's best interest to:
 - Support the development of a reliable and adequate supply of energy that is secure, stable, and predictable to facilitate economic growth, job creation, and expansion of business and industry opportunities
 - Support the exploration, development, and production of domestic energy supplies, preferably from the resources within the State or region...
 - Protect and preserve the State's natural resources, cultural heritage, and quality of life and, above all, the public health and safety of its residents during the exploration, development, and production of domestic energy resources.
- The State must provide the basis for development of a long-range unified energy policy to encompass comprehensive energy resource planning and efficient management of existing energy resources...

§ 113B-2. Purpose of the Energy Policy Council

- Advise and make recommendations on increasing domestic energy exploration, development, and production to the Governor and the General Assembly.
- Serves as the central energy policy planning body of the State.
- Located within the Department of Environmental Quality.
- Powers, duties and functions of the EPC prescribed by the Secretary of Environmental Quality unless provided in Chapter 113B.

§ 113B-3, 4. Composition of the Council

- 13 members
- Lieutenant Governor or a designee - serves as Chair of the EPC
- Secretary of Environmental Quality or a designee
- Secretary of Commerce or a designee
- 10 Appointed Members (with specific qualifications)
 - 2 by the Governor
 - 4 by the Speaker of the House
 - 4 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
- Committees

§ 113B-6. General Duties and Responsibilities

- To develop and recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly
 - A comprehensive State energy policy that addresses requirements over short term (10 years) requirements, midterm (25 years), and long term (50 years)
 - Includes energy efficiency, renewable and alternative sources of energy, research and development into alternative energy technologies, and improvements to the State's energy infrastructure and energy economy, including smart grid and domestic energy resources that shall include at least natural gas, coal, hydroelectric power, solar, wind, nuclear energy, and biomass.
- To conduct an ongoing assessment of the opportunities and constraints of all forms of energy.
- To continually review and coordinate all State government research, education and management programs relating to energy matters.
- To continually educate and inform the general public regarding energy matters.
- To recommend to the Governor and to the General Assembly needed energy legislation and rule making as the Council considers necessary and desirable.

§ 113B-7. Energy Efficiency Program

- EPC recommends an EE Program to the Governor every 5 years for approval
- Include recommendations related to:
 - The Building Code Council
 - Appliance standards
 - State government purchases of supplies, vehicles, and equipment
 - Local government energy conservation policies, programs and procedures
 - Economic and environmental impact analysis
- Identify proposals for implementations that can be carried out by executive order
- Governor accepts, administers, and enforces based on delegated authority
- Governor assigns administrative responsibility for implementation carried out by executive order to State agencies, and submits to the General Assembly proposals requiring legislative action for implementation.

Other Programs and Authority

- § 113B-8. Energy Management Plan
- § 113B-9. Emergency Energy Program; components
- § 113B-11. Powers and authority

§ 113B-12. Annual reports

- EPC develops comprehensive reports every 2 years
- Submits to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Environmental Review Commission, the Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy, and the chairman of the Utilities Commission
- Content
 - Overview of statewide growth and development
 - Energy supply and demand for a five, 10- and 20-year forecast period
 - Potential adverse social, economic, or environmental impacts
 - Analysis of the role of energy efficiency, renewable energy, improvements to the State's energy infrastructure
 - Recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly for additional administrative and legislative actions on energy matters
 - Summary of the Council's activities since the last report and an assessment of plan implementation

Questions?