

Changes to Texas' Renewable Portfolio Standard

HB 2194 by Rep. Christian
HB 3145 by Rep. Gonzalez Toureilles

HB 2850 by Rep. Farabee
HB 4327 by Rep. Strama

Proposals

- HB 2194 would require a total of 500 MW of capacity from non-wind renewable generation to be installed by Jan. 1, 2017. The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) would establish a minimum annual renewable energy requirement, including a minimum annual requirement for the installation of non-wind renewable generation.
- HB 2850 would change the current renewable portfolio standard (RPS) target of 10,000 MW of installed renewable capacity by Jan. 1, 2025 to a mandate, and increases the RPS for non-wind generation to 3,000 MW.
- HB 3145 would set a mandate of 4,000 MW of capacity from a combination of non-large-wind renewable technology and small-scale wind turbines with capacity of less than 150 kW by Jan. 1, 2020. The cumulative installed capacity would include two interim mandates: 500 MW by Jan. 1, 2012, 2,000 MW by Jan. 1, 2015.
- HB 4327 would set a goal of 3,000 MW of installed "tier 2" (non-wind) renewable energy technology by Jan. 1, 2020; up to 1,000 MW of renewable energy storage may qualify to meet that goal. The bill creates a separate renewable energy credit (REC) market for "tier 2" renewable technologies. HB 4327 would require the PUC to adopt rules necessary to provide a "Made in Texas" incentive for all RECs.

AECT Position

- AECT member companies support the implementation of alternative energy technologies as they become economically viable and in demand by customers. Allowing market participants the flexibility to meet customer demand is the best process for supporting new technologies.
- Customers who seek to use these technologies should be allowed the opportunity to weigh the benefits versus the costs and choose accordingly, but those customers should not be able to shift costs to other customers.
- Alternative energy resource development must be closely coordinated with the utilities whose job it is to provide electric service to customers. This is particularly important with new technologies designed to interconnect with the current electric system.
- Mandates of experimental or developing technologies can add costs to the market, which are ultimately borne by customers.
- AECT remains committed to a long-term transition to future energy solutions, but our state must do so in a manner that is rational, measured and does not impose an unreasonable financial burden on customers or market participants.