

HB 142 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0569

10/08

HOUSE BILL ***142***

AN ACT relative to the operation of the Burgess Biopower plant.

SPONSORS: Rep. Vose, Rock. 5

COMMITTEE: Science, Technology and Energy

ANALYSIS

This bill allows the public utilities commission to amend its orders as necessary to protect the continued operation of the Burgess Biopower plant.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to the operation of the Burgess Biopower plant.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Findings. The general court finds that the continued operation of the Burgess BioPower plant
2 in Berlin: (a) is desirable to the energy infrastructure of the state of New Hampshire; (b) is a source
3 of indigenously-sourced, reliable baseload power that contributes to regional fuel security and
4 reliability of the regional electricity grid; (c) is important for the attainment of renewable energy
5 portfolio standard goals of fuel diversity, capacity, sustainability and energy independence; (d) is
6 significant to the continued health of New Hampshire's forests; (e) provides valuable support to the
7 timber industry; and (f) is a contributor of jobs and to the economy of both the North Country and
8 the state as a whole.

9 2 Public Utilities Commission; Authority to Amend Orders. Notwithstanding any other
10 provision of the law, any order issued or settlement agreement approved by the public utilities
11 commission to the contrary, including but not limited to any orders issued in public utilities
12 commission Dockets DE 10-195, DE 19-142, DE 11-250, DE 14-238, and DE 22-050, the public
13 utilities commission may amend any of its orders as necessary to protect the continued operation of
14 the Burgess Biopower plant as follows:

15 I. Given the contributions, both economic and energy-related, that the Burgess Biopower
16 plant provides to the state, any and all relief provided to the Burgess Biopower plant shall be
17 deemed to be reasonable, legitimate, and in the public interest for the purposes of RSA 374:57, or
18 any provision of law applicable to the approval of power purchase agreements.

19 II. In order to ensure the continued viability of Burgess Biopower, any proceeding conducted
20 by the public utilities commission shall be conducted on an expedited basis, by opening a docket
21 within 30 days after passage of this act and issuing a final order implementing the relief provided in
22 this act no later than 6 months from the effective date of this act.

23 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.