

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2011

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 293 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Catawba Ecocomplex Renewable Energy.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Allran

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes ()	No (X)	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2011-12</u>	<u>FY 2012-13</u>	<u>FY 2013-14</u>	<u>FY 2014-15</u>	<u>FY 2015-16</u>
REVENUES	0	0	0	0	0
EXPENDITURES	0	0	0	0	0
POSITIONS (cumulative):	0	0	0	0	0
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Environment and Natural Resources; Utilities Commission; Secretary of State.					
EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.					

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 293 authorizes the owner of a parcel or tract of land or owners of contiguous parcels or tracts of land in Catawba County that meet certain criteria to apply to the Secretary of State for a designation as an ecocomplex renewable energy demonstration park for the purpose of featuring clean energy facilities, laboratories, and companies. This bill directs the Utilities Commission to assign triple credit to any electric power or renewable energy certificates generated from renewable energy resources at a biomass renewable energy facility located in the ecocomplex renewable energy demonstration park, if the commission determines that a facility located in the park is a new renewable energy facility.

(Source: Bill Digest)

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Sections 2 and 3 – Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Sections 2 and 3 describe requirements regarding permits and designations of these sites pertinent to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). DENR’s Division of Waste Management anticipates that these requirements would have no impact on its activities, and Fiscal Research concurs with the assessment that this bill would have no fiscal impact.

Section 3 –Department of the Secretary of State

Section 3 requires Department of the Secretary of State (Department) to receive application and make designations regarding the Ecocomplex. The Department’s office is allowed to seek additional information from DENR and the relevant land owners. If a designation is made, a certificate is awarded to the relevant parties and filed at the Department. The Department anticipates that existing staff could process applications and certifications and that no additional resources are required. Fiscal Research agrees with this assessment.

Section 4 - Utilities Commission

Section 4 outlines requirements that the Utilities Commission (the Commission) will have to follow regarding the new Ecocomplex. The Commission states that section 4 will not have a noticeable impact on their current operations and should not have a fiscal impact. Fiscal Research concurs with their assessment and agrees that there will not be a fiscal impact to the Commission.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Environment and Natural Resources; Utilities Commission;

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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