

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 2806

**DATE:** March 23, 2004

**Version:** Second Engrossment

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**Subject:** Creating a Renewable Energy Working Group

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### Overview

House File 2806 creates a renewable energy working group to assess future renewable energy development in Minnesota and report to the Legislative Electric Energy Task Force by December 1, 2004.

#### Section

- 1 **Definition.** Defines "legislative electric energy task force (LEETF) staff" as staff members of the office of senate counsel and research and the house research department responsible for providing legislative drafting and policy analysis to the LEETF.
- 2 **Renewable energy working group.**

**Subd. 1. Membership.** Requires LEETF staff to convene a renewable energy working group by June 15, 2004 consisting of 18 members, six of which are at-large and 12 of which represent the following groups: investor-owned utilities, municipal electric utilities, cooperative electric associations, environmental advocates, developers of large-scale wind energy projects, community energy developers, local governments, business customers, biomass or other renewable energy projects, the residential utility unit of the office of the Minnesota attorney general, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, and the Midwest Independent System Operator.

**Subd. 2. Appointment.** Specifies that working group members shall be appointed jointly by the chairs of the LEETF and the chairs of the senate and house of

**Section**

representatives committees with primary jurisdiction over energy policy.

**Subd. 3. Charge.** Charges the renewable energy working group to assess the future development of renewable energy in the state over the next 5-, 10-, and 20-year periods. The group is to:

- compile an inventory of existing and renewable energy projects in Minnesota, and any projects known to be under development;
- determine the extent to which current and future planned electric transmission capacity in the state may constrain the development of renewable energy production;
- recommend how existing state programs to develop renewable energy should be amended, coordinated, and integrated.

**Subd. 4. Expenses.** Specifies that members of the working group are to be reimbursed for expenses as specified in current law pertaining to advisory councils (sec. 15.059). Expenses cannot exceed \$10,000 without the approval of the chairs of the LEETF.

**Subd. 5. Report.** Requires the working group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the LEETF by December 1, 2004.