

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Advanced conversion technologies study.

Sponsored by: Joint Minerals, Business and Economic
Development Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to minerals; providing for the issuance of
2 proposals for a mineral to liquid fuel commercial facility
3 feasibility study as specified; requiring a report;
4 providing for a matching fund program; providing
5 legislative findings; providing an appropriation; providing
6 for the submission of an application for abandoned mine
7 land funds as specified; providing a sunset date; and
8 providing for an effective date.

9

10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.**

13

1 (a) The task force created pursuant to 2007 Wyoming
2 Session Laws, Chapter 186, Section 2 and codified at W.S.
3 21-17-121 shall issue requests for proposals for front end
4 engineering and design studies to determine the feasibility
5 of constructing and operating a commercial scale facility
6 which converts minerals to liquid fuels. The task force
7 shall review and evaluate proposals for a commercial scale
8 minerals to liquid fuels facility feasibility study,
9 subject to the following:

10
11 (i) Proposals may be received from academic
12 institutions and private industry proponents;

13
14 (ii) Proposals shall be evaluated competitively
15 on their anticipated benefits to the state of Wyoming and
16 the probability that funding of the proposal will result in
17 the construction of one (1) or more commercial scale
18 minerals to liquid fuels conversion facilities within the
19 state;

20
21 (iii) Proposals shall ultimately result in the
22 enhancement of Wyoming mineral products and add monetary
23 value to the same;

1

2 (iv) Applicants shall demonstrate their
3 financial and operational ability to begin construction of
4 a commercial scale minerals to liquid fuels conversion
5 facility within two (2) years of completion of the front
6 end engineering and design study; and

7

8 (v) Applicants shall demonstrate their
9 willingness and ability to match any funding from the
10 account on a dollar for dollar basis.

11

12 (b) The task force shall issue a report to the
13 governor and the joint minerals, business and economic
14 development interim committee no later than September 30,
15 2012 regarding funding recommendations for front end
16 engineering and design studies for the construction and
17 operation of a commercial scale minerals to liquid fuels
18 facility in Wyoming.

19

20 (c) The task force may award funds in the research
21 account created by W.S. 39-14-802 sixty (60) days after
22 submitting the task force's recommendations to the joint
23 minerals, business and economic development interim

1 committee. No funds shall be expended from the account
2 without a match of funds at least equal to the expenditure
3 from the account and the written opinion of the attorney
4 general certifying the legality of the transaction and all
5 documents connected therewith.

6

7 **Section 2.**

8

9 (a) The legislature of the state of Wyoming finds
10 that front end engineering and design studies for the
11 construction and operation of a commercial scale minerals
12 to liquid fuels facility in Wyoming is necessary to:

13

14 (i) Protect tax and mineral revenues to the
15 state of Wyoming from coal of more than two hundred million
16 dollars (\$200,000,000.00) per year;

17

18 (ii) Protect coal industry related jobs in
19 Wyoming estimated to be in excess of six thousand eight
20 hundred (6,800) jobs per year;

21

22 (iii) Provide and promote value added processing
23 of minerals in the state of Wyoming;

1

2 (iv) Address issues relating to energy on a

3 national and international policy level; and

4

5 (v) Further the public interest in maintaining

6 and promoting Wyoming's energy industries within the state.

7

8 (b) The expenditure of funds pursuant to the

9 provisions of this act further those public interests of

10 the state.

11

12 **Section 3.**

13

14 (a) There is appropriated ten million dollars

15 (\$10,000,000.00) from the general fund to the research

16 account created by W.S. 39-14-802 for the purpose of

17 funding one (1) or more front end engineering and design

18 studies to determine the feasibility of constructing and

19 operating a commercial scale facility which converts

20 minerals to liquid fuels. Notwithstanding any other

21 provision of law, this appropriation shall not be

22 transferred or expended for any other purpose.

1 Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 or 9-4-207, unexpended funds
2 shall revert on June 30, 2014.

3

4 (b) The department of environmental quality is
5 authorized to submit to the office of surface mining, a
6 grant application for funds from the state of Wyoming's
7 share of abandoned mine land funds from the Surface Mining
8 Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2006, Section
9 411(h)(i), pursuant to 2007 H.R. 6111 as follows:

10

11 (i) The grant application shall be for an amount
12 equal to the general fund appropriation under this section.
13 Any funds received pursuant to the grant, shall be
14 deposited to the research account created by W.S.
15 39-14-802, and shall be used to the extent permitted by
16 federal law to supplant the general fund appropriation made
17 in this section. To the extent those general funds are
18 unexpended, unobligated and supplanted they shall be
19 redeposited to the general fund as supplanted by federal
20 funds;

21

22 (ii) The application shall be submitted as soon
23 as feasible after the effective date of this act.

1

2 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon
3 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
4 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
5 Constitution.

6

7

(END)