

SENATE FILE NO. SF0093

Coalbed natural gas-water use.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Geis, Job, Townsend and Vasey

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to coalbed natural gas water use; creating
2 a task force; providing an appropriation; providing for a
3 report; providing a sunset date; and providing for an
4 effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.**

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10 (a) There is created a coalbed natural gas water use
11 task force consisting of fifteen (15) members. The task
12 force members shall select a chairman and a vice-chairman.

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14 (b) Four (4) members of the task force shall be from
15 the following agencies:

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1 (i) One (1) member shall be the director of the
2 department of environmental quality;

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4 (ii) One (1) member shall be the state engineer;

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6 (iii) One (1) member shall be the supervisor of
7 the oil and gas commission; and

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9 (iv) One (1) member shall be the chairman of the
10 Wyoming natural gas pipeline authority.

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12 (c) Seven (7) members of the task force shall be
13 appointed by the governor from the following communities:

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15 (i) Three (3) members from the coalbed natural
16 gas industry;

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18 (ii) Three (3) members from the agricultural
19 community; and

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21 (iii) One (1) member from the public at large.

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23 (d) Four (4) members of the task force shall be
24 legislators, including two (2) members of the senate

1 appointed by the president of the senate and two (2)
2 members of the house of representatives appointed by the
3 speaker of the house.

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5 (e) The task force shall meet at the call of the
6 chairman to review and evaluate alternative uses of water
7 produced as a result of coalbed natural gas operations.

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9 (f) The task force shall issue a report, including
10 reviewing current statutes and regulations and produced
11 water management alternatives and options currently
12 available to or used by the coalbed natural gas industry,
13 to the governor and the joint agriculture, public lands and
14 water resources interim committee review at the chairman's
15 discretion and the joint minerals, business and economic
16 development interim committee to be delivered no later than
17 December 6, 2006, and a final report to be delivered no
18 later than October 1, 2007.

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20 (g) The task force shall be staffed by the governor's
21 office. The task force may contract for administrative and
22 research services to aid in preparation of the task force
23 report. The governor's office shall convene the task force
24 no later than May 1, 2006.

1

2 (h) The task force shall exist until October 30,
3 2007. Members of the task force who are not legislators
4 shall not receive a salary but shall receive reimbursement
5 for necessary travel and per diem expenses in the manner
6 and amount provided for state employees under W.S. 9-3-102
7 and 9-3-103. Members of the task force who are legislators
8 shall be paid salary, per diem and travel expenses as
9 provided in W.S. 28-5-101 for their official duties as
10 members of the task force.

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12 **Section 2.** There is appropriated two hundred fifty
13 thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) from the general fund to the
14 governor's office for expenses incurred pursuant to this
15 act.

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

21

22

(END)