

SENATE FILE NO. SF0037

School of energy resources.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the University of Wyoming; creating the
2 school of energy resources; providing for the University of
3 Wyoming energy resources council; requiring reports;
4 providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective
5 date.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-17-116 is created to read:

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11 **21-17-116. School of energy resources; creation**
12 **authorized; University of Wyoming energy resources council**
13 **established; reports.**

14

1 (a) Subject to legislative appropriation, the
2 University of Wyoming shall operate the school of energy
3 resources.

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5 (b) The school of energy resources shall have the
6 following objectives:

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8 (i) To provide nationally competitive
9 undergraduate and graduate instruction in energy related
10 disciplines, particularly those of importance to develop
11 Wyoming's energy resources;

12

13 (ii) To advance the state-of-the-art in Wyoming
14 energy related science, technology and economics research;
15 and

16

17 (iii) To support scientific and engineering
18 outreach through dissemination of information to Wyoming's
19 energy industries, companies, community colleges and
20 governmental agencies.

21

22 (c) The school of energy resources shall:

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1 (i) Establish relationships with Wyoming energy
2 companies and coordinate with other energy industry
3 organizations to sustain and optimize the development of
4 Wyoming's energy portfolio. For the purposes of this
5 section, Wyoming's energy portfolio includes both
6 nonrenewable and renewable resources;

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8 (ii) Establish relationships with the Wyoming
9 community colleges creating local programs to enrich
10 students' education in the Wyoming energy industry
11 operations;

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13 (iii) Maintain flexibility in its focus and
14 structure to be capable of responding to the changing needs
15 of Wyoming's energy industries with regard to instruction,
16 research and outreach.

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18 (d) The university's board of trustees shall
19 establish the structure and policies for operation of the
20 school of energy resources consistent with this section,
21 and shall engage as many academic departments and colleges
22 as possible in support of the school.

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1 (e) The University of Wyoming energy resources
2 council is created and shall provide direction to the
3 school of energy resources regarding identifying and
4 prioritizing issues which should be targeted for research
5 and outreach. The University of Wyoming energy resources
6 council shall consist of eleven (11) members, including the
7 president of the university and the director of the
8 Ruckleshaus institute of environment and natural resources,
9 both of whom are ex officio. The remaining nine (9)
10 members shall be appointed for terms of three (3) years,
11 except for the initial appointments, three (3) members
12 shall be appointed for one (1) year and three (3) members
13 shall be appointed for two (2) years. Of these nine (9)
14 members, three (3) shall be appointed by the board of
15 trustees of the University of Wyoming, three (3) shall be
16 appointed by the governor and three (3) shall be appointed
17 jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of
18 the house of representatives. The president and the
19 speaker shall make their appointments from among
20 nominations submitted by Wyoming energy industries. These
21 nine (9) appointments shall represent to the greatest
22 extent practicable the diverse components of Wyoming's
23 energy industries, and be appointed with the advice and
24 consent of the senate, in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101

1 through 28-12-103. The board of trustees shall appoint the
2 chairman and vice chairman for the University of Wyoming
3 energy resources council with either the chairman, the vice
4 chairman or both being from among the appointments made by
5 the president and the speaker.

6
7 (f) The university shall report annually, not later
8 than October 1, to the joint minerals, business and
9 economic development interim committee, the joint
10 appropriations interim committee and the joint education
11 interim committee regarding all revenues to and
12 expenditures by the school of energy resources during the
13 preceding fiscal year, accomplishments of the school of
14 energy resources and its benefits to Wyoming's energy
15 economy.

16
17 **Section 2.** There is appropriated to the University of
18 Wyoming from the general fund twelve million seventy-one
19 thousand nine hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$12,071,997.00)
20 to establish the school of energy resources created under
21 this act. Expenditures from this appropriation during the
22 2007-2008 biennium shall as near as practicable be
23 consistent with the first two (2) years of the total budget
24 needed to implement the school's operations over a three

1 (3) year period, as contained in the university's October
2 1, 2005, report to the joint minerals, business and
3 economic development interim committee as required under
4 2005 Wyoming session laws, chapter 191, section 337. This
5 appropriation shall be included within the university's
6 block grant but shall be accounted for separately with
7 financial reports submitted as provided in W.S.
8 21-17-116(f) as created in section 1 of this act.

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10 **Section 3.** The annual report required under W.S.
11 21-17-116(f) on October 1, 2006, shall be a summary of
12 progress toward development of the school through September
13 1, 2006.

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

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20

(END)