

WORKING DRAFT

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. _____

State engagement in transmission lines & energy facilities.

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

A BILL

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming
2 Constitution to authorize the state to engage in works of
3 internal improvement for transmission lines and related
4 facilities, including the purchase of transmission line
5 capacity and to participate in works relating to advanced
6 coal and energy technology facilities including all
7 facilities, structures and properties incidental or useful
8 in the production, transportation and transmission of
9 energy, without submitting the question of the state's
10 authority to engage in such works to a vote of the people.

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12 *BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING,*
13 *two-thirds of all the members of the two houses, voting*
14 *separately, concurring therein:*

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1 **Section 1.** The following proposal to create Wyoming
2 Constitution, Article 16, Section 14 is proposed for
3 submission to the electors of the State of Wyoming at the
4 next general election for approval or rejection to become
5 valid as a part of the Constitution if ratified by a
6 majority of the electors at the election:

7

8 **Article 16, Section 14. Construction and improvement**
9 **of transmission lines and related facilities.**

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11 The provisions of section 6 of article 16 of this
12 constitution prohibiting the state from engaging in any
13 work of internal improvement unless authorized by a two-
14 thirds (2/3) vote of the people shall not apply to or
15 affect the construction or improvement of transmission
16 lines and related facilities, including but not limited to
17 construction, improvement, financing and ownership and
18 including the purchase of capacity in such transmission
19 lines, and participation in clean coal and new energy
20 technology projects [**LSO NOTE: In addition to transmission**
21 **lines, this will allow participation in advance coal and**
22 **energy technology]** including all facilities, structures and
23 properties incidental or useful in the production and
24 transmission of energy, as may be designated by the

1 Legislature. The Legislature shall have power to provide
2 for the construction, improvement, financing and ownership
3 of such transmission lines and related transmission
4 facilities, to purchase capacity in such transmission lines
5 and to participate in clean coal and new energy technology
6 projects, in whole or in part by the state, either directly
7 or by extending aid to its political subdivisions or to any
8 public corporation legally organized for such purposes.

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10 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State shall endorse
11 the following statement on the proposed amendment:

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1 Generally the Wyoming Constitution pursuant to Article 16,
2 Section 6 prohibits the state from engaging in works of
3 internal improvement without submitting the question of
4 engaging in those activities to a vote and those activities
5 being authorized by a 2/3 vote of the people. Pursuant to
6 previous constitutional amendments, the state has been
7 authorized to engage in works of internal improvements for
8 public roads and highways, for conservation and utilization
9 of water and for certain airport improvements, without
10 submitting the issue to a vote. The passage of this
11 amendment will give the legislature of the State of Wyoming
12 the power to engage directly in, or by financing, the
13 construction and improvement of transmission lines and
14 related facilities including the purchase of capacity in
15 transmission lines without submitting the issue to a vote.

16

17

(END)