

**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 new technology energy projects 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:

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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, the construction,  
17 improvement, financing and ownership of facilities that are  
18 inside the state of Wyoming and may extend into other  
19 states, including the purchase of capacity in such  
20 transmission lines, and participation in clean coal and new  
21 technology energy projects including all facilities,  
22 structures and properties incidental or useful in the  
23 production and transmission of energy, as may be designated  
24 by the Legislature. The Legislature shall have power to

1 provide for the construction, improvement, financing and  
2 ownership of such transmission lines and related  
3 transmission facilities, to purchase capacity in such  
4 transmission lines and to participate in clean coal and new  
5 technology energy projects, in whole or in part by the  
6 state, either directly or by extending aid to its political  
7 subdivisions or to any public corporation legally organized  
8 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  
12 Wyoming, without submitting the issue to a vote, the power  
13 to purchase capacity in transmission lines, engage directly  
14 in, or by financing, construction, and improvement of  
15 transmission lines and their related facilities that are  
16 inside the state of Wyoming and may extend into other  
17 states. The legislature would also have the power to  
18 participate in clean coal and new technology energy  
19 projects without submitting the issue to a vote.

20

21

(END)