Clean coal task force.

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

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to the clean coal task force; extending the existence of the clean coal task force as specified; requiring annual reports; reappropriating funds to be used for clean coal research; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-17-121 is created to read:

21-17-121. Clean coal research task force; members; compensation; proposals; report.

(a) The clean coal research task force created pursuant to 2007 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 186, Section 2 shall exist until June 30, 2013. The task force shall
consist of the voting members of the Wyoming energy
resources council created pursuant to W.S. 21-17-117(e), or
their designees.

(b) The task force shall meet at the call of the
chairman. The task force shall issue requests for
proposals for research projects into clean coal
technologies. The task force shall review and evaluate
proposals for research into clean coal technologies,
subject to the following:

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

(ii) Proposals shall be evaluated competitively
on their probable benefits to the state of Wyoming and coal
programs within this state;

(iii) Proposals shall enhance and improve clean
coal technologies with an emphasis on methods of combusting
sub-bituminous coal at high altitudes.

(c) The task force shall issue a report to the
governor and the joint minerals, business and economic
development interim committee annually, no later than September 30, including, but not limited to, recommendations regarding funding specific proposals for research into clean coal technologies in Wyoming.

(d) The task force shall be staffed by the governor's office with support from the University of Wyoming school of energy resources. The task force may contract for administrative and research services to aid in preparation of the task force report.

(e) Members of the task force who are not legislators shall not receive a salary but shall receive reimbursement for necessary travel and per diem expenses in the manner and amount provided for state employees under W.S. 9-3-102 and 9-3-103. Members of the task force who are legislators shall be paid salary, per diem and travel expenses as provided in W.S. 28-5-101 for their official duties as members of the task force.

(f) The clean coal task force may award funds in the clean coal technology account to proposals for clean coal after submitting the task force's recommendations to the
joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee.

Section 2. W.S. 39-14-802(b) is amended to read:

39-14-802. Clean coal research account created; funds deposited; use of funds.

(b) Deposits into the account created by subsection (a) of this section shall only be expended upon appropriation by the legislature pursuant to W.S. 21-17-121(f). Funds deposited in the account shall not be expended until a dollar for dollar match has been provided from nonstate of Wyoming public funds. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 or 9-4-207, unexpended funds shall not revert.

Section 3. 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 320(a)(vii) is amended to read:

Section 320.

(a) No application to the federal office of surface mining for grants from the state of
Wyoming's share of abandoned mine land funds from the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2006, Section 411(h)(i), pursuant to 2007 H.R. 6111, shall be made except as expressly authorized by the legislature. The legislature authorizes the department of environmental quality to submit grant applications to the federal office of surface mining for distribution of a portion of such funds for the period ending June 30, 2009, for the following projects:

(vii) Three million eight hundred thousand dollars ($3,800,000.00) for clean coal technology research to be expended pursuant to 2007 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 186, Section 2(f) as created in Section 325 of this act W.S. 21-17-121(f) for the purpose of clean coal technology research.

Section 4. 2007 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 186, Sections 2 and 3 and 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 325(b), Section 3(b) are repealed.
Section 5.

(a) Any funds remaining from the appropriation provided in 2007 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 186, Section 3(b), as amended by 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 325(b) are hereby reappropriated to the account created under W.S. 39-14-802 for the purpose of clean coal technology research.

(b) Any funds remaining under the appropriation provided in 2007 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 186, Section 3(a) are hereby reappropriated to the governor's office for expenses incurred by the clean coal task force.

(c) There is appropriated seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for compensation of legislative members serving on the clean coal task force.

(d) Funds appropriated under subsections (b) and (c) of this section are appropriated for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2010. These appropriations shall only be expended for the purpose of staffing the clean coal task force and for
expenses incurred by the clean coal task force. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the appropriation under subsection (a) of this section shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall not revert as provided by law on June 30, 2010. The appropriations under subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall be included in the governor's and the legislative service office's 2011-2012 standard biennial budget requests.

Section 6. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.