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The People of the State of Nevada do enact as follows:
Matters in ***Bold/Italic*** are new:

FILED
Stokes
MAY 08 2008
5:02 p.m.
SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS DIVISION

NRS 701.010 Legislative findings; state policy.

1. The Legislature finds that:

(a) Energy is essential to the economy of the State and to the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State.

(b) The State has a responsibility to encourage the maintenance of a reliable and economical supply of energy at a level which is consistent with the protection of environmental quality.

(c) The State has a responsibility to encourage the utilization of a wide range of measures which reduce wasteful uses of energy resources.

(d) Planning for energy conservation and future energy requirements should include consideration of state, regional and local plans for land use, urban expansion, transportation systems, environmental protection and economic development.

(e) Government and private enterprise need to accelerate research and development of sources of renewable energy; ***especially energy derived from biomass***, and to improve technology related to the research and development of existing sources of energy.

(f) While government and private enterprise are seeking to accelerate research and development of sources of renewable energy, they must also prepare for and respond to the advent of competition within the electrical energy industry and are, therefore, encouraged to maximize the use of indigenous energy resources to the extent competitively and economically feasible.

(g) Prevention of delays and interruptions in providing energy, protecting environmental values and conserving energy require expanded authority and capability within State Government.

2. It is the policy of this state to encourage participation with all levels of government and private enterprise in cooperative state, regional and national programs to assure adequate supplies of energy resources and markets for such energy resources.

3. It is the policy of this state to assign the responsibility for managing and conserving energy and its sources to agencies whose other programs are similar, to avoid duplication of effort in developing policies and programs for energy.

(Added to NRS by 1977, 1163; A 1983, 2092; 1995, 311; 2001, 3263)—(Substituted in revision for NRS 523.011)

NRS 701.020 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 701.030 to 701.090 , inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

NRS 701.180 General duties concerning energy resources and energy conservation. The Director shall:

1. Acquire and analyze information relating to energy and to the supply, demand and conservation of its sources.

2. Utilize all available public and private means to provide information to the public about problems relating to energy and to explain how conservation of energy and its sources may be accomplished.

3. Review and evaluate information which identifies trends and permits forecasting of the energy available to the State. Such forecasts must include estimates on:

(a) The level of demand for energy in the State for 5-, 10- and 20-year periods;

(b) The amount of energy available to meet each level of demand;

(c) The probable implications of the forecast on the demand and supply of energy; and

(d) The sources of renewable energy and other alternative sources of energy which are available and their possible effects.

(e) ***The potential for energy to be maintained with biomass.***

4. Study means of reducing wasteful, inefficient, unnecessary or uneconomical uses of energy and encourage the maximum utilization of existing sources of energy in the State.

5. Encourage the development of:

(a) Any sources of renewable energy and any other energy projects which will benefit the State; and

(b) Any measures which conserve or reduce the demand for energy or which result in more efficient use of energy.

6. In conjunction with the Desert Research Institute, review policies relating to the research and development of the State's geothermal resources and make recommendations to the appropriate state and federal agencies for establishing methods of developing the geothermal resources within the State.

7. Solicit and serve as the point of contact for grants and other money from the Federal Government and other sources to promote:

- (a) Energy projects that enhance the economic development of the State;
- (b) The use of renewable energy; and
- (c) The use of measures which conserve or reduce the demand for energy or which result in more efficient use of energy.

8. Coordinate the activities and programs of the Office of Energy with the activities and programs of the Task Force, the Consumer's Advocate and the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada and other federal, state and local officers and agencies that promote, fund, administer or operate activities and programs related to the use of renewable energy and the use of measures which conserve or reduce the demand for energy or which result in more efficient use of energy.

9. Carry out all other directives concerning energy that are prescribed by the Governor.

(Added to NRS by 1977, 1163; A 1983, 2092; 1993, 1698; 2001, 3263 ; 2003, 1873)

NRS 701.030 "Biomass" defined. "Biomass" means any organic matter that is available on a renewable basis, including, without limitation:

- 1. Agricultural crops and agricultural wastes and residues;
- 2. Wood and wood wastes and residues;
- 3. Animal wastes;
- 4. Municipal wastes; and
- 5. Aquatic plants.

6. *Industrial Hemp*

(Added to NRS by 2001, 3259)

DESCRIPTION OF EFFECT

HEMP FOR BIOMASS

The purpose of amending this law is to allow DRI-The Desert Research Institute to research hemp as a source of biomass for energy. This petition will add hemp to a list of plants and other materials that are allowed to be studied.

The emphasis of this law is that the state has a responsibility to provide us with clean renewable energy, and has the duty to promote any research that will help us to this goal. As noted in other laws, "Industrial Hemp" means "marijuana," or is known to be a form of Cannabis Sativa. We maintain that Hemp was a valuable cash crop long before "marijuana" was targeted, and production of hemp products should be reinstated. It is also noted that the hemp plant can be imported but not grown here.

County of _____ (Only registered voters of this county may sign below)

This space for
office use only

1	PRINT YOUR NAME (last name, first name, initial)	RESIDENCE ADDRESS ONLY		
	YOUR SIGNATURE	DATE / /	CITY	
2	PRINT YOUR NAME (last name, first name, initial)	RESIDENCE ADDRESS ONLY		
	YOUR SIGNATURE	DATE / /	CITY	
3	PRINT YOUR NAME (last name, first name, initial)	RESIDENCE ADDRESS ONLY		
	YOUR SIGNATURE	DATE / /	CITY	
4	PRINT YOUR NAME (last name, first name, initial)	RESIDENCE ADDRESS ONLY		
	YOUR SIGNATURE	DATE / /	CITY	
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	YOUR SIGNATURE / /	CITY	COUNTY

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THE FOLLOWING AFFIDAVIT MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED.

AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR

(TO BE SIGNED BY CIRCULATOR)

STATE OF NEVADA)
)
COUNTY OF _____)

I, _____, (print name), being first duly sworn under penalty of perjury, depose and say:

(1) that I reside at _____

(print street, city and state); (2) that I am 18 years of age or older; (3) that I personally circulated this document; (4) that all signatures were affixed in my presence; (5) that I believe them to be genuine signatures; and (6) that each individual who signed was at the time of signing a registered voter in the county of his or her residence.

Signature of Circulator

Subscribed and sworn to or affirmed before me this

_____ day of _____, _____, by _____.

Notary Public or person authorized to administer oath