

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Minerals to liquid fuels study.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to minerals; providing for the issuance of
2 proposals for a mineral to liquid commercial facility
3 feasibility study as specified; creating an account;
4 requiring a report; providing for a matching fund program;
5 providing an appropriation; providing a sunset date; and
6 providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.**

11

12 (a) The clean coal research task force shall issue
13 requests for proposals for front end engineering and design

1 studies to determine the feasibility of constructing and
2 operating a commercial scale facility which converts
3 minerals to liquid motor fuels. The task force shall review
4 and evaluate proposals for a commercial scale minerals to
5 liquid motor fuels facility feasibility study, subject to
6 the following:

7
8 (i) Proposals may be received from academic
9 institutions and private industry proponents;

10
11 (ii) Proposals shall be evaluated competitively
12 on their anticipated benefits to the state of Wyoming and
13 the probability that funding of the proposal will result in
14 the construction of one (1) or more commercial scale
15 minerals to liquid fuels conversion facilities within the
16 state;

17
18 (iii) Proposals shall ultimately result in the
19 enhancement of Wyoming mineral products and add monetary
20 value to the same;

21
22 (iv) Applicants shall demonstrate their
23 financial and operational ability to begin construction of

1 a commercial scale minerals to liquid motor fuels
2 conversion facility within two (2) years of completion of
3 the front end engineering and design study; and
4

5 (v) Applicants shall demonstrate their
6 willingness and ability to match any funding from the
7 account on a dollar for dollar basis.
8

9 (b) The task force shall issue a report to the
10 governor and the joint minerals, business and economic
11 development interim committee no later than September 30,
12 2012 regarding funding recommendations for front end
13 engineering and design studies for the construction and
14 operation of a commercial scale minerals to liquid fuels
15 facility in Wyoming.
16

17 (c) The clean coal task force may award funds in the
18 minerals to liquid motor fuels feasibility study account
19 sixty (60) days after submitting the task force's
20 recommendations to the joint minerals, business and
21 economic development interim committee. No funds shall be
22 expended from the account without a match of funds at least
23 equal to the expenditure from the account and the written

1 opinion of the attorney general certifying the legality of
2 the transaction and all documents connected therewith.

3
4 **Section 2.**

5
6 (a) The legislature finds that front end engineering
7 and design studies for the construction and operation of a
8 commercial scale minerals to liquid fuels facility in
9 Wyoming is necessary to:

10
11 (i) Protect tax and mineral revenues to the state
12 of Wyoming from coal of more than two hundred million
13 dollars (\$200,000,000.00) per year;

14
15 (ii) Protect coal industry related jobs in
16 Wyoming estimated to be in excess of five thousand (5,000)
17 per year;

18
19 (iii) Provide and promote value added processing
20 of minerals in the state of Wyoming;

21
22 (iv) Address issues relating to energy on a
23 national and international policy level;

1

2 (v) Protect the state's economic interests in

3 maintaining a stable tax base; and

4

5 (vi) Further the public interest in maintaining

6 and promoting Wyoming's energy industries within the state.

7

8 (b) The expenditure of funds pursuant to the

9 provisions of this act further those public interests of

10 the state specified in subsection (b) of this section.

11

12 **Section 3.**

13

14 (a) There is appropriated five million dollars

15 (\$5,000,000.00) from the general fund to the minerals to

16 liquid motor fuels feasibility study account for the

17 purpose of funding one (1) or more front end engineering

18 and design studies to determine the feasibility of

19 constructing and operating a commercial scale facility

20 which converts minerals to liquid motor fuels.

21 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this

22 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any

23 other purpose. Funds deposited in the account shall not be

1 expended until a dollar for dollar match has been provided.
2 Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 or 9-4-207, unexpended funds
3 shall revert on June 30, 2014.
4

5 (b) The department of environmental quality is
6 authorized to submit to the office of surface mining, a
7 grant application for funds from the state of Wyoming's
8 share of abandoned mine land funds from the Surface Mining
9 Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2006, Section
10 411(h)(i), pursuant to 2007 H.R. 6111 as follows:
11

12 (i) The grant application shall be for an amount
13 equal to the general fund appropriation under this section.
14 Any funds received pursuant to the grant, shall be
15 deposited to the feasibility study account, and shall be
16 used to the extent permitted by federal law to supplant the
17 general fund appropriation made in this section. To the
18 extent those general funds are unexpended, unobligated and
19 supplanted they shall be redeposited to the general fund.
20

21 (ii) The application shall be submitted as soon as
22 feasible after the effective date of this act.

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

5

6

(END)