

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 250

BY REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO THE SALES AND USE TAX ON EQUIPMENT USED IN ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF
2 GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY; AMENDING SECTION 63-3622QQ, IDAHO CODE, TO
3 REVISE REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE SALES TAX REBATE FOR EQUIPMENT USED
4 IN ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY; AND AMENDING SEC-
5 TION 2, CHAPTER 355, LAWS OF 2005, TO EXTEND THE SUNSET DATE.
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. That Section 63-3622QQ, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
9 hereby amended to read as follows:

10 63-3622QQ. EQUIPMENT USED IN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF GENERATION OF
11 ELECTRICITY. (1) Purchasers of qualifying machinery and equipment used di-
12 rectly in generating electricity using fuel cells, low impact hydro, wind,
13 geothermal resources, biomass, cogeneration, sun or landfill gas as the
14 principal source of power may qualify for a rebate of sales or use taxes paid
15 on such purchases but only if the purchaser achieves commercial operation
16 of an electrical generating facility by December 31, 2014, and develops
17 with such qualifying machinery, equipment, and tangible personal property a
18 facility capable of generating not less than twenty-five (25) kilowatts of
19 electricity.

20 (2) For purposes of this section:

21 (a) "Landfill gas" means biomass fuel of the type qualified for fed-
22 eral tax credits under 26 U.S.C. section 29 collected from a landfill.

23 "Landfill" means a landfill as defined in section 39-7403, Idaho Code;

24 (b) "Qualifying machinery and equipment" means industrial fixtures,
25 devices, and support facilities that are integral and necessary to the
26 generation of electricity using fuel cells, low impact hydro, wind,
27 geothermal resources, biomass, cogeneration, sun, or landfill gas as
28 the principal source of power. "Qualifying machinery and equipment"
29 includes all operating property as described in section 63-3501(h),
30 Idaho Code;

31 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (2) (b) of this section, "qualifying ma-
32 chinery and equipment" does not include:

33 (i) Hand-powered tools;

34 (ii) Property with a useful life of less than one (1) year;

35 (iii) Repair parts required to restore machinery and equipment to
36 normal working order;

37 (iv) Replacement parts that do not increase productivity, improve
38 efficiency, or extend the useful life of machinery and equipment;

39 (v) Buildings; or

40 (vi) Building fixtures that are not integral and necessary to the
41 generation of electricity that are permanently affixed to and be-
42 come a physical part of a building;

1 (d) ~~Qualifying m~~Machinery and equipment is "used directly" in gener-
 2 ating electricity with fuel cells or by low impact hydro, wind energy,
 3 geothermal resources, biomass, cogeneration, solar energy or landfill
 4 gas power if it provides any part of the process that captures the en-
 5 ergy of the fuel cells, low impact hydro, wind, geothermal resources,
 6 biomass, cogeneration, sun, or landfill gas, converts that energy to
 7 electricity, and stores, transforms or transmits that electricity for
 8 entry into or operation in parallel with electric transmission and dis-
 9 tribution systems;

10 (e) "Fuel cell" means an electrochemical reaction that generates elec-
 11 tricity by combining atoms of hydrogen and oxygen in the presence of a
 12 catalyst;

13 (f) "Low impact hydro" means an electric generating facility utilizing
 14 water for the generation of electricity, housed in existing canals or
 15 existing reservoirs and having a power production capacity twenty-five
 16 (25) kilowatts or greater.

17 (3) To qualify for the rebate, the taxpayer ~~and his contractors~~ must:

18 ~~(a) pay sales and use tax on their purchases of property. Once Obtain~~
 19 ~~a certification from a public utility, a cooperative, a municipality~~
 20 ~~or the public utilities commission certifies that the project will gener-~~
 21 ~~erate at least twenty-five (25) kilowatts of electricity, the taxpayer~~
 22 ~~may file a refund request with the state tax commission.;~~

23 ~~(b) The refund request shall state that the taxpayer will construct or~~
 24 ~~has constructed On or before December 31, 2014, achieves commercial op-~~
 25 ~~eration by a project that will generate sufficient kilowatts of elec-~~
 26 ~~tricity at the project site to be eligible for the rebate and that the~~
 27 ~~taxpayer is entitled to receive a rebate; and~~

28 ~~(c) Pay sales and use tax on purchases of property and file a refund re-~~
 29 ~~quest of all sales and use taxes paid that qualifies for the rebate cre-~~
 30 ~~ated by this section.~~

31 (4) Upon filing of a written refund claim by the taxpayer entitled to
 32 the rebate, and subject to such reasonable documentation and verification as
 33 the state tax commission may require, the rebate shall be paid by the state
 34 tax commission as a refund allowable under section 63-3626, Idaho Code. A
 35 claim for rebate under this section must be filed on or before the last day
 36 of the third calendar year following the year in which the taxes sought to be
 37 rebated were paid or the right to the rebate is lost.

38 (5) Any rebate paid shall be subject to recapture by the state tax com-
 39 mission. In the event the property is not used, stored or otherwise consumed
 40 in the process of generating electricity for a period of sixty (60) months,
 41 the state tax commission may recapture the tax paid in the same proportion as
 42 an amount of credit required to be recaptured under section 63-3029B, Idaho
 43 Code.

44 (6) Any recapture amount due under this section shall be a deficiency
 45 in tax for the period in which the disqualification first occurs for pur-
 46 poses of section 63-3629, Idaho Code, and may be enforced and collected in
 47 the manner provided by the Idaho sales tax act, provided however, that in
 48 lieu of the provisions of section 63-3633, Idaho Code, the period of time
 49 within which the commission may issue a notice under section 63-3629, Idaho
 50 Code, in regard to an amount subject to recapture shall be the later of five

1 (5) years after the end of the taxable year, for income tax purposes, in which
2 the project period ends.

3 SECTION 2. That Section 2, Chapter 355, Laws of 2005, be, and the same is
4 hereby amended to read as follows:

5 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
7 passage and approval, and shall be null, void and of no force and effect on
8 and after July 1, 2014.