

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS30204 / H0096

This bill amends the Idaho Energy Resources Authority (IERA) Act by removing definitions of “renewable energy” and “renewable energy generation projects,” replacing those terms with definitions of “clean energy” and “clean energy generation projects.” The new definition of clean energy carries over the old renewable energy definition that included water/hydro, geothermal, wind, solar and biogas, while adding nuclear, hydrogen, energy/battery storage, and other non-carbon emitting resources. Broadening these definitions signals Idaho’s support behind research and development of emerging energy technologies, including advanced nuclear energy, small modular reactors, hydrogen turbine generators, and energy storage systems.

FISCAL NOTE

There is not fiscal impact to the State regarding this legislation, or the activities of the IERA. Bonds issued by the IERA are secured solely by debt service payments made to the IERA by participating utilities borrowing from the IERA and by security interests held by the IERA in the financed electric facilities. The state of Idaho has no liability related to IERA bonds, does not guarantee IERA bonds and has no contingent or residual bond liability.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).