HB 2448 -- Renewable Energy

Sponsor: Still

This bill requires the Missouri Public Service Commission to have a cost-benefit analysis performed before approving an investor-owned utility's request for sourcing a new or expanding a renewable energy source. An investor-owned utility or other entity requesting approval for sourcing a new or expanding a renewable energy source must provide the commission all possible locations both within and outside of Missouri that will be considered for the facility. The analyses will only be performed relative to these sites. An analysis must take into consideration all economic benefits and costs of building, operating, and maintaining new or expanded renewable energy sources in Missouri versus outside Missouri's boundaries. commission must evaluate all costs associated with sourcing renewable energy from inside or outside the state, including the cost of electricity to investor-owned utility ratepayers, increases in Missouri unemployment payments, and any other costs. The commission must require an electrical corporation or other entity that may construct a renewable generation facility to provide the information for the analysis and the means to verify its accuracy.

The commission must examine purchased power agreements in the cost-benefit analysis based on the location of the actual source of the power. Renewable energy credits must not be used to satisfy portfolio requirements, and renewable energy costs will be capped as specified in Section 393.1030, RSMo.

If the benefits of building in Missouri exceed the costs, the commission must require the renewable energy facility to be built in Missouri at locations considered in the cost-benefit analysis. However, if the costs exceed the benefits, the commission cannot oppose the facility being built outside the state. Facilities outside Missouri can only be built at locations included in the analysis.

The commission will have rulemaking authority to develop the process and timeline for completing the cost-benefit analysis and may hire outside consultants to conduct the analysis.