

HCS HBs 2122 & 1626 -- MISSOURI NUCLEAR CLEAN POWER ACT

SPONSOR: Black

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Utilities by a vote of 12 to 7.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HBs 2122 & 1626.

This bill establishes the "Missouri Nuclear Clean Power Act", which allows clean baseload electric generating plants or facilities rated at 600 megawatts or less that utilize clean baseload electric generating plants to produce energy not in commercial operation as of August 28, 2026, to include in the corporation's rate base any amounts recorded to construction work in progress. The Public Service Commission will determine the amount of construction work in progress as specified in the bill. Base rate recoveries arising from the inclusion of construction work in progress in base rates are subject to refund.

These provisions will expire on December 31, 2036, unless the Commission determines that good cause exists to extend these provisions through December 31, 2046. The secretary of the Commission must notify the Revisor of Statutes if the conditions for the extension have been met.

This bill is the similar to HCS HB 50 (2025).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROponents: Supporters say that with the retiring baseload generating plants, additional capacity is needed to just meet the state's current energy need, not accounting for any growth in energy demand. This bill will allow for investor-owned utilities to include construction costs for nuclear power generation in rates, lowering the interest amounts accrued and saving money.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Black; City Utilities of Springfield; Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities; Associated Industries of Missouri; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that nuclear power is the direction the country and the world is moving for power generation and there is a need to develop a workforce to meet the new demand. In addition, Ameren Missouri's upcoming revision to its Integrated Resource Plan will include plans to build a nuclear plant in the next 20 years.

Testifying in person on the bill were Kurt Schaefer, Missouri Department of Natural Resources; Mohammad Dehghani, Missouri S&T; and Ameren Missouri.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.