



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2017 Wisconsin Act 53**  
[2017 Senate Bill 144]

**Renewable Resource Credits**

### **BACKGROUND**

2017 Wisconsin Act 53 relates to resources eligible for renewable resource credits, which are used to comply with the state's renewable portfolio standard, or RPS. Wisconsin has two types of relevant standards: (1) a statewide goal of 10% of all electric energy consumed in the state being renewable energy; and (2) an RPS that applies to each electric provider authorized to sell electricity at retail in the state.

An RPS is a requirement that electric providers sell a specified amount of electricity derived from renewable resources to retail customers or members. Electric providers may comply with the standard by generating electricity from renewable sources, buying electricity from another generator that uses renewable sources, or buying credits from another supplier that has generated or bought more electricity from renewable sources than required to meet the standard.

Compliance with the RPS is measured in renewable resource credits, or RRCs. An electric provider creates one RRC for each megawatt hour of renewable energy it sells. It may bank any RRCs it creates in excess of its RPS requirement, or it may sell them to any other electric provider at any negotiated price.

In addition, RRCs can be created by an electric provider or by a customer or member of an electric provider based on their use of certain energy sources if the use displaces the use of electricity derived from conventional sources and the displacement is verifiable and measurable.

### **2017 WISCONSIN ACT 53**

2017 Wisconsin Act 53 adds heat that is a byproduct of a manufacturing process to the list of renewable resources. The Act also provides such heat or heat that is a byproduct of a

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

manufacturing process and is used to provide thermal energy for another purpose may be used to create an RRC if the use displaces the use of electricity derived from conventional sources.

*Effective date:* August 4, 2017

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