
AN ACT to amend 196.378 (2) (a) 1.; and to create 16.75 (12) (b) 3., 196.378 (2) (a) 1g. and 196.378 (2) (a) 1r. of the statutes; relating to: renewable energy goals for state energy consumption and for energy use by certain state agencies.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires the Department of Administration (DOA) to establish renewable energy goals for the following state agencies: DOA, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Health Services, the Department of Public Instruction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System. One of the goals was that, by December 31, 2011, at least 20 percent of the total amount of electric energy generated or purchased by the state for power, heating, or cooling purposes for state-owned or leased facilities for all of the foregoing agencies is derived from renewable resources. Current law defines a “renewable resource” as a resource that generates electricity from any of the following: 1) certain renewable fuel cells; 2) tidal or wave action; 3) solar thermal electric or photovoltaic energy; 4) wind power; 5) geothermal technology; 6) biomass; 7) synthetic gas created by the plasma gasification of waste; 8) certain densified fuel pellets made from waste material other than garbage; 9) fuel produced by pyrolysis of organic or waste material; and 10) hydroelectric facilities. In addition, the Public Service Commission (PSC) is allowed to promulgate rules identifying other types of renewable resources. Current law requires DOA to submit annual reports to the governor and legislature on the degree of attainment regarding the goals.

This bill requires DOA to establish new goals for the foregoing agencies. Under the bill, DOA must establish goals for the agencies that are designed to accomplish
the goal that, by December 31, 2025, at least 30 percent of total annual amount of
electric energy generated or purchased by the state for power, heating, or cooling
purposes for state-owned or leased facilities for all of the agencies is derived from
renewable resources. As under current law, DOA will be required to submit annual
reports to the governor and legislature on the degree of attainment regarding the
goals.

Current law also requires the PSC to prepare a report no later than June 1,
2016, that states whether, by December 31, 2015, the state has met a goal that 10
percent of all electric energy consumed in the state is derived from renewable
resources. If the goal is not achieved, the report must indicate why the goal was not
achieved and how it may be achieved, and the PSC must prepare similar reports
biennially thereafter until the goal is achieved. The PSC must submit the reports
to the governor and legislature.

This bill requires the PSC to prepare another report, no later than June 1, 2026,
that states whether, by December 31, 2025, the state has met a goal that 25 percent
of all electric energy consumed in the state is derived from renewable resources. If
the goal is not achieved, the report must indicate why the goal was not achieved and
how it may be achieved, and the PSC must prepare similar reports biennially
thereafter until the goal is achieved. The bill requires the PSC to submit the reports
to the governor and legislature.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as
an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do
enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 16.75 (12) (b) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

16.75 (12) (b) 3. That the renewable percentage for total annual electric energy
by December 31, 2025, is at least 30 percent.

SECTION 2. 196.378 (2) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

196.378 (2) (a) 1. No later than June 1, 2016, the commission shall prepare a
report stating whether, by December 31, 2015, the state has met a goal of 10 percent
of all electric energy consumed in the state being renewable energy. If the goal has
not been achieved, the report shall indicate why the goal was not achieved and how
it may be achieved, and the commission shall prepare similar reports biennially
thereafter until the goal is achieved. The commission shall submit reports under this

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subdivision to the governor and chief clerk of each house of the legislature for
distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2) or until the commission prepares
the report required no later than June 1, 2026, under subd. 1g., whichever occurs
first.

SECTION 3. 196.378 (2) (a) 1g. of the statutes is created to read:

196.378 (2) (a) 1g. No later than June 1, 2026, the commission shall prepare
a report stating whether, by December 31, 2025, the state has met a goal of 25 percent
of all electric energy consumed in the state being renewable energy. If the goal has
not been achieved, the report shall indicate why the goal was not achieved and how
it may be achieved, and the commission shall prepare similar reports biennially
thereafter until the goal is achieved.

SECTION 4. 196.378 (2) (a) 1r. of the statutes is created to read:

196.378 (2) (a) 1r. The commission shall submit the reports required under
subs. 1. and 1g. to the governor and chief clerk of each house of the legislature for
distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2).

(END)