
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2025 Senate Bill 125

Senate Amendment 1

2025 SENATE BILL 125

The bill directs the Public Service Commission (PSC) to conduct a nuclear power siting study in accordance with certain requirements specified in the bill. No later than 12 months after the bill takes effect, the PSC must submit a report to the Legislature containing the results of the study. The bill creates a new continuing appropriation for the PSC to use to conduct the nuclear power siting study, but it allocates no funds in the upcoming fiscal biennium.

The bill also makes changes to the timeframe for obtaining a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN). Current law requires a CPCN to construct any large electric generating facility. Generally the PSC must take final action on any CPCN application within 180 days after it is complete, but this may be extended for up to 180 days, as specified in the statutes. The bill shortens the timeframe for final action on a CPCN in certain cases. Specifically, if an application for a CPCN relates to a facility that contains an advanced nuclear reactor, as defined in the bill, then the PSC must take final action within 150 days, but this may be extended for up to 150 days, as specified in the bill.

Upon its enactment, the bill would take effect the day after publication, or the second day after publication of the Biennial Budget Act, whichever is later.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

The amendment removes the appropriation language from the bill. It also removes the effective date provision specifying that the bill takes effect after its publication, or after publication of the Biennial Budget Act, whichever is later. The amendment modifies the required due date of the PSC's report to the Legislature, so that it must be provided 18 months, instead of 12 months, after the effective date.

Additionally, the amendment removes the changes to the initial and extended CPCN timeframes for a facility that contains an advanced nuclear reactor, so that the current standard of 180 days for those periods will continue to apply in all cases.

Finally, the amendment adds requirements expanding the scope of the study. It requires identification of sites for fusion energy generation, in addition to other sites. Also, the amendment requires the PSC to review processes for small modular reactors currently under development to gain understanding of potential approval timelines for such projects. The PSC must also engage with the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission to gain insight into small modular reactor approval processes and specific opportunities for streamlining the federal and state processes for such reactors.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Bradley introduced the bill on March 14, 2025, and offered the amendment to the bill on April 28, 2025. On April 30, 2025, the Senate Committee on Utilities and Tourism held a public hearing on the bill. On May 6, 2025, the committee recommended adoption of the amendment, and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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