

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

School of energy resources.

Sponsored by: Joint Minerals, Business and Economic
Development Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the University of Wyoming; creating the
2 school of energy resources; providing for the University of
3 Wyoming energy resources council; requiring reports;
4 providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective
5 date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-17-116 is created to read:

10

11 **21-17-116. School of energy resources; creation**
12 **authorized; University of Wyoming energy resources council**
13 **established; reports.**

14

1 (a) Subject to legislative appropriation, the
2 University of Wyoming shall operate a school of energy
3 resources.

4

5 (b) The school of energy resources shall have the
6 following objectives:

7

8 (i) To provide nationally competitive
9 undergraduate and graduate instruction in energy related
10 disciplines, particularly those of importance to Wyoming's
11 economy;

12

13 (ii) To advance the state-of-the-art in energy
14 related science, technology and economics research; and

15

16 (iii) To support scientific, engineering and
17 economic outreach through dissemination of information to
18 Wyoming's energy industries and governmental agencies.

19

20 (c) The school of energy resources shall:

21

22 (i) Establish linkages with the energy industry
23 and coordinate with other energy related organizations to
24 sustain and optimize the development of Wyoming's energy

1 portfolio. For the purposes of this section, Wyoming's
2 energy portfolio includes both nonrenewable and renewable
3 resources;

4

5 (ii) Maintain flexibility in its focus and
6 structure to be capable of responding to the changing needs
7 of Wyoming's energy economy with regard to instruction,
8 research and outreach.

9

10 (d) The university's board of trustees shall
11 establish the structure and policies for operation of the
12 school of energy resources consistent with this section,
13 and shall engage as many academic departments and colleges
14 as possible in support of the school.

15

16 (e) The board of trustees shall appoint the
17 University of Wyoming energy resources council which shall
18 provide guidance to the board of trustees and the
19 university's president regarding the operation of the
20 school, including identifying and prioritizing issues which
21 should be targeted for research and outreach. The
22 University of Wyoming energy resources council shall
23 consist of nine (9) members appointed for terms of three
24 (3) years, except for the initial appointments, three (3)

1 members shall be appointed for one (1) year and three (3)
2 members shall be appointed for two (2) years. The
3 appointments shall represent to the greatest extent
4 practicable the diverse components of Wyoming's energy
5 economy.

6
7 (f) The university shall report annually, not later
8 than October 1, to the joint minerals, business and
9 economic development interim committee and the joint
10 education interim committee regarding accomplishments of
11 the school and its benefits to Wyoming's energy economy.

12
13 **Section 2.** There is appropriated to the University of
14 Wyoming from the general fund twelve million seventy-one
15 thousand nine hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$12,071,997.00)
16 to establish the school of energy resources created under
17 this act. Expenditures from this appropriation during the
18 2007-2008 biennium shall as near as practicable be
19 consistent with the first two (2) years of the total budget
20 needed to implement the school's operations over a three
21 (3) year period, as contained in the university's October
22 1, 2005, report to the joint minerals, business and
23 economic development interim committee as required under
24 2005 Wyoming session laws, chapter 191, section 337. This

1 appropriation shall not be included within the university's
2 block grant but shall be a separate university program
3 administered by the trustees in accordance with W.S.
4 21-17-116.

5

6 **Section 3.** The annual report required under W.S.
7 21-17-116(c) on October 1, 2006, shall be a summary of
8 progress toward development of the school through September
9 1, 2006.

10

11 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon
12 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
13 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
14 Constitution.

15

16

(END)