

Hall of the House of Representatives
88th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2011
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1450

THE ARKANSAS CARBON DIOXIDE STORAGE ACT.

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1450

Amend House Bill No. 1450 as originally introduced:

Delete Section 1 and 2 in their entirety and substitute:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 15, Chapter 72 is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 11 – Carbon Dioxide Storage

15-72-1101. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Arkansas Carbon Dioxide Storage Act”.

15-72-1102. Legislative finding.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Carbon dioxide is a substance that occurs naturally in the environment as a result of biological processes and that exists as a gas at standard temperature and pressure;

(2) Carbon dioxide is released during combustion of any material that contains carbon including coal, natural gas, oil, and wood, all of which exist in abundance and the production and use of which is one of the foundations of our state’s economy;

(3) Carbon dioxide is currently being released into the atmosphere in substantial volumes through the combustion of such materials as coal, natural gas, oil, and wood;

(4) For many years, technologies for the injection, use, and storage of carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations have been developed and successfully used for the extraction of underground natural resources such as oil and natural gas;

(5) The storage of carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations may be an effective means for reducing the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from anthropogenic sources;

(6) The transportation and storage of carbon dioxide in underground geological formations and for beneficial use or reuse in industrial and commercial applications is expected to increase in the United States and in Arkansas due to initiatives by federal, state, and local governments, industry and commerce, and other interested persons and may present an opportunity for economic growth and development for the state; and



(7) The United States Environmental Protection Agency is moving forward with regulations that may require industry to address carbon dioxide emissions, and recent federal regulatory developments, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency Underground Injection Control Program for Carbon Dioxide Geologic Sequestration Wells, make it prudent and appropriate to allow for the transportation of carbon dioxide and the storage of carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations as an alternative to its release into the atmosphere.

(b) The General Assembly also finds that:

(1) The transportation and storage of carbon dioxide will benefit the citizens of the state by reducing carbon dioxide emissions;

(2) Carbon dioxide may have potential for use in other industrial and commercial processes and applications;

(3) Transportation and storage of carbon dioxide may allow for the orderly withdrawal and use or reuse as appropriate or necessary, thereby allowing carbon dioxide to be available for commercial, industrial, or other uses, including the use of carbon dioxide for enhanced recovery of oil and gas;

(4) the protection of private property rights and interests are essential and may be impacted by the underground storage of carbon dioxide; and

(5) It is the public policy of this state and the purpose of this subchapter to provide for a coordinated statewide program for the transportation and storage of carbon dioxide in underground geological formations and also to fulfill the state's primary responsibility for ensuring compliance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f et seq., including recent regulations concerning the underground injection of carbon dioxide.

(6). The risks and technology for the injection of carbon dioxide on a commercial scale are not entirely known and in the development stage with only pilot projects being completed and as such there is sufficient time for the legislature to study all issues associated with this matter.

(c) The General Assembly further finds that:

(1) Liability issues surrounding long-term storage of carbon dioxide must be addressed in order to encourage the development of projects under this subchapter;

(2) Liability insurance is a key component of the injury compensation structure contemplated in this subchapter;

15-72-1103. Definitions.

As used in this act:

(1) "Carbon dioxide" means naturally occurring, geologically sourced, or anthropogenically sourced carbon dioxide, including without limitation its derivatives and all mixtures, combinations, and phases of carbon dioxide, whether liquid or gaseous, stripped, segregated, or divided from any other fluid stream, material, or substance;

(2)(A) "Carbon dioxide transmission pipeline" means a pipeline, a compressor, a meter and associated equipment and appurtenances used for the purpose of transporting carbon dioxide in this state for underground storage in this state or another state.

(B) "Carbon dioxide transmission pipeline" does not include carbon capture equipment located at the generator of the carbon dioxide or a pipeline that is part of a storage facility;

(3) "Oil or gas" means oil, natural gas, coalbed methane, or gas condensate;

(4) "Person" means an individual, corporation, company, firm, partnership, association, trust, joint-stock company or trust, venture, municipal, state, or federal government or agency, or any other legal entity, however organized;

(5) "Reservoir" means that portion of any underground geologic stratum, formation, aquifer, cavity, or void, whether natural or artificially created, including without limitation oil and gas reservoirs, salt domes, or other saline formations, oil and gas formations, or coal and coalbed methane seams that are suitable for or capable of being made suitable for the injection and storage of carbon dioxide;

(6) "Storage" means the placement and long-term or short-term underground storage of carbon dioxide in a reservoir;

(7)(A) "Storage facility" means the reservoir, the underground equipment and pipelines internal to the storage operation, storage wells, monitoring wells, and surface buildings and equipment utilized in the storage operation, including pipelines owned or operated by the storage operator used to transport carbon dioxide from one (1) or more capture facilities or sources to the storage and injection site or sites.

(B) "Storage facility" does not include carbon capture equipment located at the generator of the carbon dioxide;

15-72-1104. Authority to Accept

(a) The Arkansas Public Service Commission may prescribe, enforce, and implement safety standards for carbon dioxide transmission pipelines subject to this subchapter in accordance with and to the extent that the pipelines are subject to the Arkansas Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1971, § 23-15-201 et seq.

(b)(1) This subchapter does not apply to:

(A) The use of carbon dioxide as a part of or in conjunction with any enhanced recovery operation where the sole purpose of the project is enhanced oil, coalbed methane, brine, or natural gas recovery; or

(B) A natural gas storage operation certificated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or the Oil and Gas Commission.

(c)(1) This subchapter does not amend the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq.

(d) This subchapter does not affect the jurisdiction of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission or the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality with respect to water and air pollution control or other matters within their respective jurisdictions.

(e) This subchapter does not affect the requirement that a person apply for and obtain a permit as provided by the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, § 8-4-101 et seq.

(f)(1) The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality may administer on behalf of the state, subject to the approval of the Governor, its own program for the underground injection of carbon dioxide for the purpose of geologic sequestration within its jurisdiction in lieu of that of the United

States Environmental Protection Agency under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f et seq., as it existed on February 1, 2011.

(2) The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality may submit to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency an application for approval of a program that the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality proposes to establish and administer for the underground injection of carbon dioxide for the purpose of geologic sequestration as provided in Section 1422 of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act , 42 U.S.C. § 300f et seq., as it existed on February 1, 2011.

(3) The Department, the Arkansas Pollution Control & Ecology Commission and the Oil and Gas Commission shall:

(A) Meet the requirements of Section 1422 of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f et seq., as it existed on February 1, 2011, relating to the underground injection of carbon dioxide for the purpose of geologic sequestration; and

(B) Enter into interagency written agreements or understandings that may be necessary or convenient for the delegation or sharing of responsibility or administration relating to the underground injection of carbon dioxide for the purpose of geologic sequestration.

(g) No agency of state government or political subdivision of the state may regulate a facility or activity for the purpose of the transportation, storage, or withdrawal of carbon dioxide for the purpose of storage in underground geologic formations except as expressly authorized under this subchapter.

(h) No person or entity may construct or operate any part of a carbon dioxide storage facility without first obtaining a permit from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. No authorizing permits by any state agency to proceed under this chapter or otherwise for any carbon dioxide storage facility shall be issued until June 30, 2013.

15-72-1105. Delegation of Authority

(a) The legislature, after the interim study named herein, shall empower the proper agencies with authority to provide for a coordinated statewide program for the transportation and storage of carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations which shall be determined by the legislature and implemented no later than June 30, 2013. Such agency rules shall, at a minimum, address such issues as the following:

(1) The public necessity for a proposed storage facility or carbon dioxide transmission pipeline;

(2) The economic reasonableness of a proposed storage facility;

(3) The suitability of the location of a proposed storage facility, including its reservoir;

(4) The environmental impact of a proposed storage facility or carbon dioxide transmission pipeline;

(5) Financial requirements, including long-term financial assurance or responsibility, for the construction, operation, monitoring, closure, remediation and long-term care of a proposed storage facility;

(6) Public notice and comment, including the opportunity for a public hearing, on the need for a proposed storage facility or a proposed carbon dioxide transmission pipeline and on any permit to construct or operate a storage facility or carbon dioxide transmission pipeline;

(7) Permits to construct and operate a proposed storage facility that contain conditions reasonably necessary to protect against pollution or escape of carbon dioxide from the reservoir;

(8) The quality of carbon dioxide to be managed at a proposed storage facility so as to not compromise the rights of landowners, human health, the environment, or the safety and efficiency of the reservoir;

(9) Cooperative agreements with other states or state agencies for the purpose of regulating carbon dioxide storage facilities or carbon dioxide transmission pipelines that extend across state boundaries; and

(10) Civil penalties for violations of rules adopted pursuant to this subchapter.

(b) The Oil and Gas Commission, the Arkansas Pollution Control & Ecology Commission, and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality shall provide a report to the House Insurance and Commerce Committee no later than June 30, 2012, describing their progress and their proposals to address the requirements of subsection (f) of 15-72-1104 and subsection (a) of this section, including without limitation each of the items enumerated in subsection (a).

(c) All rules and regulations adopted under this subchapter shall be reviewed by the Joint Interim Insurance and Commerce Committee, and by the Joint Interim Public Health and Welfare Committee.

(d) Each agency named herein shall propose how to address the issues cited within this subchapter to the legislature within the time frame outlined.

15-72-1106. Ownership of reservoir and pore space.

(a)(1) A conveyance of the surface ownership of real property shall be deemed to be a conveyance of the reservoir and pore space in all strata below the surface of the real property, except in the following circumstances:

(A) The ownership interest in the reservoir and pore space has been previously severed from the surface ownership;

(B) The ownership interest in the reservoir and pore space has been explicitly reserved from the conveyance of the surface ownership; or

(C) The ownership interest in the reservoir and pore space has been implicitly reserved from the conveyance of the surface ownership by the placement of a restriction or limitation on the use of the surface estate.

(2)(A) A conveyance of the surface only in an original severance deed shall be sufficient to reserve to the grantor the reservoir and pore space.

(B) A conveyance or reservation of coal, oil, gas, coalbed methane, and other minerals shall not be sufficient as a conveyance or reservation of the reservoir and pore space.

(b) If, notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, prior agreements and conveyances remain uncertain as to the ownership of the reservoir and pore space, ownership of the reservoir and pore space in the strata below the surface is vested in the owner of the surface above the strata.

(c) This section is not intended to change, impinge upon, or impair any existing rights to store underground, extract, mine or otherwise produce coal, oil, gas, coalbed methane, or other mineral interests, including rights

under the Underground Storage of Gas Law, § 15-72-601 et seq., or to prevent any party from asserting adverse possession of the reservoir and pore space."

SECTION 2. Do. Not Codify. The Utilities Subcommittee of the House Insurance and Commerce Committee shall study and review:

(1) The impact of the underground storage of carbon dioxide on private property rights and interests;

(2) The use of available legal mechanisms for the amalgamation of property rights necessary for the orderly development of carbon dioxide storage facilities;

(3) Liability of carbon dioxide storage facility operators, carbon dioxide transmission pipeline operators, generators of carbon dioxide that has been injected into a carbon dioxide storage facility, and other persons with interests in a carbon dioxide storage facility upon completion of injection operations;

(4) The use of financial mechanisms or instruments for payment of the costs of long term monitoring, maintenance, remediation and liability claims associated with carbon dioxide storage facilities;

(5) The availability of liability insurance as components of a state program to ensure that there are adequate funds to provide for the safe and secure storage of carbon dioxide, to address conditions that pose a threat to human health and the environment; and to compensate landowners and others who may suffer damages as a result of carbon dioxide storage activities, for as long as carbon dioxide is stored underground;

(6) The manner in which private property owners whose lands may be acquired and used for carbon dioxide storage, and other interested persons will be notified of any and all regulatory proceedings related to the storage of carbon dioxide; and

(7) Reforms to existing laws that may be necessary to facilitate carbon dioxide storage, which will impact the landowners whose property may be utilized for carbon dioxide storage, and to protect human health and the environment from the potential adverse effects that may occur as a result of carbon dioxide storage."

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative Barnett
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Chief Clerk