

HB 2543 -- DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SPONSOR: Bondon

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Energy and the Environment by a vote of 11 to 1.

This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources, the Air Conservation Commission, or any other agency of the state to immediately suspend all activity related to the Clean Power Plan. No activity by the state or any agency or department related to the Clean Power Plan can resume until litigation regarding the implementation of the plan has been fully adjudicated and the General Assembly has approved resumption of the activity.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill would protect ratepayers from the costs of complying with the Clean Power Plan pending the outcome of the legal challenges.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bondon; Missouri Energy Development Association; Association Of Missouri Electric Cooperatives; Associated Industries Of Missouri; and Rachel Payton, Americans For Prosperity.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that by halting all activity related to the implementation of the Clean Power Plan, the department would not be able to meet the deadlines required by the plans if it were to move forward. The bill also applies to all litigation, not only the Supreme Court stay. Even if the court allows the plan to move forward, other litigation relating to the Clean Power Plan may continue for years.

Testifying against the bill were Michael Berg, Sierra Club and Mark Walter, Renew Missouri.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill clarified the differences between the Clean Power Plan and the Comprehensive State Energy Plan.

Testifying on the bill was Leann Tippett Mosby, and Department Of Natural Resources.