

State of South Dakota

EIGHTIETH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2005

400L0782

HOUSE BILL NO. 1260

Introduced by: The Committee on State Affairs at the request of the Governor

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to create the South Dakota Electric Transmission
2 Assistance Authority.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. Terms used in this Act mean:

5 (1) "Authority," the South Dakota Electric Transmission Assistance Authority created
6 by this Act;

7 (2) Board," the board of directors of the authority.

8 Section 2. The authority is created and has a five-member board of directors. The Governor
9 shall appoint the board members and not all members of the board may be of the same political
10 party. The members of the initial board shall be appointed for staggered terms with two
11 members for terms of one year each and the other members for terms of two, three, and four
12 years, respectively, as designated at the time of appointment. Thereafter all members shall be
13 appointed for four year terms. Members of the board may serve more than one term. The
14 members shall elect from the membership a chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A majority of
15 persons appointed and serving as members shall be qualified voters of the State of South Dakota
16 and a majority of members shall possess special knowledge in the field of electric power or



1 energy transmission or generation. The board members shall receive per diem set pursuant to
2 § 4-7-10.4 and expenses at the same rate as other state employees while engaged in their official
3 duties.

4 Section 3. The authority shall:

5 (1) Contact all owners of transmission lines in South Dakota and all generators and
6 distributors of electricity to consumers in South Dakota by August first of each year
7 to ask them if they need any assistance in creating or enhancing the transmission of
8 electricity to, from, or within South Dakota;

9 (2) Report its findings and make recommendations to the Governor, the Legislature, and
10 the South Dakota congressional delegation by December first of each year concerning
11 what the private sector, the state, and the federal government can do to create and
12 enhance the transmission of electricity to, from, and within South Dakota;

13 (3) Annually evaluate state laws and rules affecting electric transmission and make
14 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature for improvements by
15 December first of each year;

16 (4) Annually evaluate federal laws and rules affecting electric transmission and make
17 recommendations to the South Dakota congressional delegation for improvements
18 by December first of each year;

19 (5) Identify opportunities where owners of transmission lines in South Dakota and
20 generators and distributors of electricity to consumers in South Dakota can cooperate
21 to improve and increase electric transmission in South Dakota and communicate
22 those opportunities to owners, generators, and distributors of electricity in South
23 Dakota;

24 (6) Assist any entity or group of entities who wish to create or enhance electric

1 transmission to, from, and within South Dakota by helping them develop a business
2 plan and identify financing options; and

3 (7) Assist the electric transmission authorities of other states and any other federal or
4 regional entity wanting to create additional transmission or enhance current
5 transmission of electricity to, from, and within South Dakota.

6 Section 4. The authority shall be administered by the Department of Tourism and State
7 Development.