



2024 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1200

Introduced by: The Committee on State Affairs

1 **An Act to increase the minimum fee required with an application for construction of**
2 **an energy conversion and transmission facility.**

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

4 **Section 1. That § 49-41B-12 be AMENDED:**

5 **49-41B-12.** At the time of filing an application as required in § 49-41B-11 ~~or as~~
6 ~~subsequently required by the commission,~~ an applicant ~~shall~~ must deposit the minimum
7 fee with the commission. If required by the commission, an applicant must remit an initial
8 amount to be determined by the commission based upon the ~~estimated~~ actual cost of
9 investigating, reviewing, processing, and serving notice of an application. The amount
10 ~~shall~~ must be deposited with the state treasurer and credited to a subfund within the
11 designated revenue fund and ~~shall~~ may only be disbursed on vouchers approved by the
12 commission for the actual cost of investigating, reviewing, processing, and serving notice
13 of the application. ~~The~~ Except as otherwise agreed to by an applicant, the maximum fee
14 chargeable may not exceed one-quarter of one percent of the first one hundred million
15 dollars of estimated construction cost plus one-twentieth of one percent of all additional
16 estimated construction costs of the facility. To exceed the maximum fee when the
17 applicant has not agreed to a fee higher than the maximum amount, the commission must
18 make a finding upon a motion from the commission staff that all costs incurred were
19 reasonably necessary to investigate, review, process, and service notice of the application.
20 However, the minimum total fee chargeable may not be less than ~~eight~~ twenty thousand
21 dollars. The minimum fee is nonrefundable unless ordered by the commission.

22 If the commission determines that an environmental impact statement should be
23 prepared as provided under chapter 34A-9 before taking final action on an application
24 under this chapter, the maximum fee chargeable above may be increased to an amount
25 not to exceed one-half of one percent of the first one hundred million dollars of estimated
26 construction cost plus one-twentieth of one percent of all additional estimated construction

1 costs of the facility. However, the provisions of this paragraph do not apply in cases in
2 which a detailed environment impact study has been completed pursuant to the
3 requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended to January 1,
4 2009, and implementing regulations thereto if such a statement is available to the
5 commission at least thirty days prior to the time the commission is required to render a
6 decision under § 49-41B-24 or 49-41B-25. The provisions of this section apply to all
7 pending permit applications and future permit applications before the commission.

8 **Section 2. That § 49-41B-26 be AMENDED:**

9 **49-41B-26.** The commission ~~shall~~ must provide the applicant with a full financial
10 accounting relating to the expenditures of the amount received pursuant to § 49-41B-12.
11 Except for the ~~eight~~ twenty thousand dollar minimum fee required pursuant to § 49-41B-
12 12, unused moneys ~~shall~~ must be refunded to the applicant within thirty days of the
13 commission's decision on the application.