

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 605** HLS 25RS 942
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action: **w/ SEN COMM AMD**
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 30, 2025 12:04 PM **Author:** RISER
Dept./Agy.: Energy and Natural Resources **Analyst:** Mimi Blanchard
Subject: Expedited Processing Fee for DENR

NATURAL RESOURCES DEPT EG1 SEE FISC NOTE SD RV See Note Page 1 of 1
 Authorizes a fee for expedited processing performed by the Department of Energy and Natural Resources

Current law provides for the Department of Conservation within the Department of Energy and Natural Resources (DENR) to charge an expedited processing fee with a minimum surcharge of \$500 plus certain actual costs for services provided on an expedited basis upon promulgation of rules.

Proposed law revises the fee to equal the cost of each overtime hour, including related benefits of the highest eligible employee needed for review, at a rate of one-and-one half the standard hourly rate for each additional hour devoted to the expedited review. Proposed law provides that the expedited processing fee may be waived if the need for expedited processing is caused solely by an error, mistake, or delay on the part of the department.

Effective upon passage.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	SEE BELOW					
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The Department of Energy and Natural Resources (DENR) reports that the proposed law will result in no additional net expenditures to the state, as the bill does not increase the demand for expedited processes. The bill only allows the waiver of the expedited fee that is already authorized in law.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The proposed law introduces a provision allowing for a fee waiver if the need for expedited processing is caused by agency error, mistake, or delay. While it is difficult to predict how often the fee waiver will apply, any reduction in revenue would accrue to the same funds as the standard fees, which is the Oil and Gas Regulatory Fund.

According to DENR, \$358,031 in expedited fees has been deposited to the Oil and Gas Regulatory Fund with \$109,000 in FY 25. Proposed law removes the prior minimum administrative surcharge of \$500 and instead bases the expedited processing fee solely on direct costs, which may result in changes to the total amount collected per request.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

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