
DIGEST

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HB 246 Original

2021 Regular Session

Coussan

Abstract: Adds hydrogen to the list of substances that can be stored in underground reservoirs and salt domes.

Present law provides for the storage of natural gas, liquid hydrocarbons, and carbon dioxide in underground reservoirs and salt domes. Proposed law retains present law but also provides for the storage of hydrogen in such reservoirs and salt domes.

Present law provides that prior to using a salt dome as storage of liquid or gas hydrocarbons, or carbon dioxide, the commissioner must have a hearing and find that such use is feasible; that the storage will not contaminate other formations; the storage will not endanger lives or property and is environmentally compatible with existing dome uses; and that temporary loss of jobs caused by the storage will be corrected by compensation, new employment, or other provisions.

Present law provides that such findings along with the application for such use of a salt dome must be transmitted to the natural resources committees of the House and Senate, which may meet jointly to make recommendations to the commissioner. Proposed law retains present law and adds the storage of hydrogen.

Present law further provides that after receipt of such recommendations, if any, the commissioner is authorized to issue orders to ensure that liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons or carbon dioxide reduced to possession and then injected into a salt dome remains the property of the injector, not the surface or mineral rights owner, and to issue orders to protect the reservoir. Proposed law retains present law and adds hydrogen.

Present law requires the secretary of the Dept. of Natural Resources determine the feasibility of projects for the emergency storage of state-owned oil and gas or carbon dioxide. Proposed law retains present law and adds hydrogen.

(Amends R.S. 30:23(A), (B)(intro. para.), (1), (2), and (4), (C), and (D)(1))