What does CSSB 1287 do?

By law, transmission utilities are required to interconnect new power generation with load. Under this system, generators bear the financial risk of building new assets and consumers are responsible for expenditures that benefit them such as transmission, including system upgrades needed for new generation. Additionally, CSSB 1287 picks winners and losers, imposes new costs on clean power plants, takes revenue away from regulated utilities, and makes electricity more expensive for Texas consumers.

Why is CSSB 1287 WRONG for Texas?

- Increases the cost of building new generation, despite that in the vast majority cases, generators pay for the "driveway," from the plant to the grid and also pay for socialized interconnection costs like residential, commercial, and most industrial consumers.
- Pushes Texas toward the failed, inefficient transmission policy of other states and regional transmission organizations (RTOs).
- Places new, unnecessary costs on generation projects, ultimately increasing electricity costs at a time when consumers are already paying more for electricity.
- Makes it more difficult to plan and develop new power generation projects needed for load growth, our reserve margin, and grid reliability.
- Reduces local tax revenue and landowner payments, especially in rural Texas.

Wind and solar electric generation are the market’s most affordable sources of power and remain the best hedge against volatile energy prices, saving consumers nearly $1 billion per month in 2022. Punitive public policy, making it more difficult and costly to develop low-cost sources of power, is a step in the wrong direction when consumers can least afford the added costs.

CSSB 1287 is not a new idea. During the 2021 session, nearly identical legislation was defeated three times in the House. We urge you to REJECT this idea again.

"Poor Siting"

Proponents of CSSB 1287 falsely contend that renewable energy companies make poor siting decisions based solely on access to cheap land, ignoring market price signals and grid congestion. This is not true. In fact, all generators make their site selection based on an array of factors, including interconnection costs, grid congestion analysis, price signals, impact to ratepayers, environmental regulations and, primarily, the availability of resources needed to generate electricity.

CSSB 1287 will slow development of new power generation and raise costs on Texas consumers. The ERCOT model for interconnection costs is not broken and has served Texas well for two decades. VOTE NO on CSSB 1287.