97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB1629

by Rep. John E. Bradley

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 3855/1-80

Amends the Illinois Power Agency Act. Provides that any clean coal facility developed, financed, constructed, or operated by the Illinois Power Agency may be constructed within 10 miles of the Rend Lake Conservancy District in a county with unemployment above the State average as of the effective date of the amendatory Act. Further provides that the first facility that the Agency develops, finances, or constructs shall be a facility that uses coal that has high volatile bituminous rank and greater than 1.7 pounds of sulfur per million btu content (was, coal produced in Illinois). Makes other changes. Effective immediately.

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1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Power Agency Act is amended by 5 changing Section 1-80 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 3855/1-80)

Sec. 1-80. Resource Development Bureau. The Resource
Development Bureau has the following duties and
responsibilities:

10 (a) At the Agency's discretion, conduct feasibility
11 studies on the construction of any facility. Funding for a
12 study shall come from either:

(i) fees assessed by the Agency on municipal electric systems, governmental aggregators, unit or units of local government, or rural electric cooperatives requesting the feasibility study; or

(ii) an appropriation from the General Assembly.
(b) If the Agency undertakes the construction of a
facility, moneys generated from the sale of revenue bonds
by the Authority for the facility shall be used to
reimburse the source of the money used for the facility's
feasibility study.

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(c) The Agency may develop, finance, construct, or

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operate electric generation and co-generation facilities 1 2 that use indigenous coal or renewable resources, or both, 3 financed with bonds issued by the Authority on behalf of the Agency. Any such facility that uses coal must be a 4 5 clean coal facility and, except as otherwise provided, must be constructed in a location where the geology is suitable 6 for carbon sequestration. Any clean coal facility that is 7 8 developed, financed, constructed, or operated by the 9 Agency may be constructed within 10 miles of the Rend Lake 10 Conservancy District in a county with unemployment above 11 the State average as of the effective date of this 12 amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly. The Agency may 13 also develop, finance, construct, or operate a carbon 14 sequestration facility.

15 (1)The Agency may enter into contractual 16 arrangements with private and public entities, 17 limited to municipal electric including but not systems, governmental aggregators, and rural electric 18 19 cooperatives, to plan, site, construct, improve, 20 rehabilitate, and operate those electric generation and co-generation facilities. No contract shall be 21 22 entered into by the Agency that would jeopardize the 23 tax-exempt status of any bond issued in connection with 24 a project for which the Agency entered into the 25 contract.

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(2) The Agency shall hold at least one public

hearing before entering into any such contractual arrangements. At least 30-days' notice of the hearing shall be given by publication once in each week during that period in 6 newspapers within the State, at least one of which has a circulation area that includes the location of the proposed facility.

7 (3) The first facility that the Agency develops, finances, or constructs shall be a facility that uses 8 9 coal that has high volatile bituminous rank and greater than 1.7 pounds of sulfur per million btu content 10 11 produced in Illinois. The Agency may, however, also 12 develop, finance, or construct renewable energy 13 facilities after work on the first facility has 14 commenced.

15 (4) The Agency may not develop, finance, or16 construct a nuclear power plant.

17 (5) The Agency shall assess fees to applicants
 18 seeking to partner with the Agency on projects.

(d) Use of electricity generated by the Agency's
facilities. The Agency may supply electricity produced by
the Agency's facilities to municipal electric systems,
governmental aggregators, or rural electric cooperatives
in Illinois. The electricity shall be supplied at cost.

(1) Contracts to supply power and energy from the
Agency's facilities shall provide for the effectuation
of the policies set forth in this Act.

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(2)shall also provide 1 The contracts that, 2 notwithstanding any provision in the Public Utilities 3 Act, entities supplied with power and energy from an Agency facility shall supply the power and energy to 4 5 retail customers at the same price paid to purchase 6 power and energy from the Agency.

7 (e) Electric utilities shall not be required to purchase
8 electricity directly or indirectly from facilities developed
9 or sponsored by the Agency.

10 (f) The Agency may sell excess capacity and excess energy 11 into the wholesale electric market at prevailing market rates; 12 provided, however, the Agency may not sell excess capacity or 13 excess energy through the procurement process described in 14 Section 16-111.5 of the Public Utilities Act.

(g) The Agency shall not directly sell electric power and energy to retail customers. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prohibit sales to municipal electric systems, governmental aggregators, or rural electric cooperatives.
(Source: P.A. 95-481, eff. 8-28-07; 95-1027, eff. 6-1-09.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 21 becoming law.