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ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 5874

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Ericksen and Ranker

Read first time 02/06/15. Referred to Committee on Energy,  
Environment & Telecommunications.

1 AN ACT Relating to regulatory and financial mechanisms and means  
2 to promote the retirement of coal-fired electric generation  
3 facilities; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that more  
6 information and analysis is required in order to understand the full  
7 implications of retiring eligible coal plants.

8 (2) The energy division of the department of commerce, in  
9 consultation with the appropriate committees of the senate and house  
10 of representatives, shall study the costs and benefits of retiring an  
11 eligible coal plant, including any environmental benefits and any  
12 effects on electric rates and reliability. The study shall also  
13 include an examination of the regulatory and financial mechanisms and  
14 means that would be required to facilitate such retirement. The  
15 department of commerce shall coordinate the study with relevant  
16 government authorities in Washington and any state where an eligible  
17 generating unit is located.

18 (3) A report must be delivered to the legislature by December 11,  
19 2015.

20 (4) For the purposes of this section, "eligible coal plant" means  
21 a coal-fired electric generating facility that: (a) Had two or less

1 generating units as of January 1, 1980; (b) is owned by more than one  
2 electrical company as of the effective date of this section; and (c)  
3 provides, as a portion of the load served by the coal-fired electric  
4 generating facility, electricity paid for in rates by retail electric  
5 customers in the state of Washington.

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