

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB537

House of Origin	X	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Surovell

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Coal combustion by-product impoundments; closure requirements.

5. Summary: Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to require the closure of surface impoundments of coal combustion by-products, commonly called coal ash ponds, by July 1, 2020. The bill applies to impoundments that managed such by-products from the generation of electricity by an electric utility or independent power producer prior to December 4, 2015, including those impoundments that, prior to December 4, 2015, have been closed by capping in place or have received Department approval for closure by capping in place. The bill requires that the coal combustion by-products be removed for disposal in a permitted landfill meeting federal criteria, and that the impoundment site be reclaimed in a manner consistent with federal mine reclamation standards, for closure to be deemed complete. The bill allows an investor-owned public electric utility to recover the costs of closure from customers.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Environmental Quality, this bill is not anticipated to result in a state expenditure impact.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Department of Environmental Quality, and localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 01/21/2016 /jlm

C: Secretary of Natural Resources.