

REFERENCE TITLE: energy rules; urging adoption

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2024

## **SCM 1002**

Introduced by

Senators Sundareshan: Alston, Bravo, Burch, Diaz, Fernandez, Gabaldón,  
Gonzales, Hatathlie, Hernandez, Mendez, Miranda; Representatives De Los  
Santos, Gutierrez, Mathis, Terech, Villegas

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE CORPORATION COMMISSION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED ENERGY RULES THAT  
THE COMMISSION PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Members of the Corporation Commission:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, the current Arizona renewable energy standards end with 15%  
4 renewable generation by 2025; and

5 Whereas, the renewable energy standards are an important tool for  
6 transitioning utility energy portfolios away from fossil fuel generation  
7 and toward renewable energy, including solar and wind; and

8 Whereas, a transition away from fossil fuel generation is important  
9 for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating the impact of climate  
10 change; and

11 Whereas, Arizona has abundant sunshine but does not yet lead the  
12 country in solar generation; and

13 Whereas, in recent years, the staff of the Corporation Commission  
14 (Commission) studied and developed proposed standards for renewable  
15 energy, energy efficiency, energy storage and distributed generation; and

16 Whereas, these proposed energy rules would have required utilities  
17 to achieve 50% emissions-free electricity by 2032 and 100% emissions-free  
18 electricity by 2050, as well as an energy efficiency standard and energy  
19 storage requirement that included customer-owned systems; and

20 Whereas, a diverse array of stakeholder groups favored the newly  
21 proposed standards, including major Arizona utilities, environmental  
22 groups and consumer advocates; and

23 Whereas, in 2022 the Commission failed to pass these proposed  
24 standards, expressing concerns of costs to the ratepayers despite the fact  
25 that rising consumer costs in recent years is due to natural gas price  
26 increases; and

27 Whereas, multiple utilities are now seeking rate increases  
28 specifically due to the rising cost of natural gas; and

29 Whereas, the Commission's failure to update this state's renewable  
30 energy standards will continue to keep ratepayers captive to these rising  
31 fuel costs and at the mercy of the gas market.

32 Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House  
33 of Representatives concurring, prays:

34 1. That the Members of the Corporation Commission adopt, as soon as  
35 practicable, the proposed energy rules that the Commission previously  
36 considered.

37 2. That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this Memorial to  
38 the Members of the Corporation Commission.