
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 422

AN ACT CONCERNING BIOMASS FACILITIES.

SUMMARY

PA 25-173 removed biomass facilities from the types of energy sources considered Class I renewable energy sources, but created an exception for biomass facilities with an executed agreement to provide energy to an electric distribution company (EDC; Eversource or United Illuminating) before October 1, 2025. This bill removes that exception.

Specifically, the bill removes from Class I any biomass facility that has an executed agreement to provide energy to an EDC before October 1, 2025, and:

1. uses sustainable biomass fuel and has an average emission rate of up to .075 pounds of nitrogen oxides per million British thermal units of heat input for the previous calendar quarter or
2. has a capacity of less than 500 kilowatts and began construction before July 1, 2003.

Under current law, the biomass facility is considered a Class I renewable energy source for the duration of its agreement. Generally, removing a type of energy source from Class I makes these facilities ineligible for benefits the law provides for Class I resources, such as participation in certain power procurements administered by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the ability to sell Class I renewable energy credits.

Relatedly, the bill removes a biomass facility's environmental attributes and capacity from the products that EDCs may purchase through a DEEP solicitation authorized under existing law and makes conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 12 (03/19/2026)