

# Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

<b>Bill Number:</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title:</b> Electric transmission system
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## Estimated Cash Receipts

Agency Name	2025-27			2027-29			2029-31		
	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Office of State Treasurer	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Department of Commerce	0	0	0	35,000	35,000	35,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>

Agency Name	2025-27		2027-29		2029-31	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts						
Loc School dist-SPI						
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.					
Local Gov. Total						

## Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2025-27				2027-29				2029-31			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Office of the Governor	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Office of State Treasurer	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Commerce	.8	955,330	955,330	955,330	2.7	2,471,990	2,471,990	2,471,990	2.7	2,119,266	2,119,266	2,119,266
Utilities and Transportation Commission	.4	0	0	132,174	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Ecology	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>955,330</b>	<b>955,330</b>	<b>1,087,504</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2,471,990</b>	<b>2,471,990</b>	<b>2,471,990</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2,119,266</b>	<b>2,119,266</b>	<b>2,119,266</b>

## Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2025-27			2027-29			2029-31		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Office of the Governor	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Office of State Treasurer	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Commerce	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Utilities and Transportation Commission	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Ecology	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

NONE

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# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

<b>Bill Number:</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title:</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency:</b> 075-Office of the Governor
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## Part I: Estimates

**No Fiscal Impact**

**Estimated Cash Receipts to:**

NONE

**Estimated Operating Expenditures from:**

NONE

**Estimated Capital Budget Impact:**

NONE

*The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.*

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Jackie Kauble	Phone: 360-786-7125	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Preparation: Kathy Cody	Phone: (360) 480-7237	Date: 03/04/2026
Agency Approval: Jamie Langford	Phone: (360) 870-7766	Date: 03/04/2026
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3073	Date: 03/05/2026

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

### II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

*Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.*

Changes in the substitute bill do not change the Office of the Governor's responsibilities and therefore do not change previous fiscal note assumptions

Senate Bill 6355 creates the Washington Electric Transmission Authority as a public body to improve the reliability, resilience, capacity, and affordability of the state's electric transmission system. A board of directors must be appointed by January 1, 2027, to provide oversight and advise the authority on policies.

Section 4 states that the Governor must appoint nine (9) members to the Authority's Board of Directors. The members of the board must include:

- A person with experience working at a consumer-owned utility, preferably with expertise in the transmission function;
- A person with experience working at an investor-owned utility, preferably with expertise in the transmission function;
- A person with expertise in land use planning and law and local permitting processes;
- A person with expertise in clean energy development;
- A person with expertise in ratepayer protection;
- A person representing electrical workers with expertise in building electric transmission;
- A person with expertise in financing large infrastructure projects;
- A person with expertise in wildlife conservation and land use policies;
- A person from a federally recognized Indian Tribe, including federally recognized Indian tribes whose reservation or ceded lands lie in Washington state.

One or more members must have experience with the Bonneville Power Administration's transmission service. No member of the board may represent a person who owns or operates electric generating or transmission facilities.

Members of the board appointed by the governor must serve four-year terms. However, the governor must stagger the terms of six of the initial appointees for terms of one, two, and three years. At the end of the term, these members may be reappointed by the governor, or the governor may choose to appoint a new member.

The Governor's Office's responsibilities are limited to appointing members to the Board of Directors of the Washington Electric Transmission Authority and receiving required reports from the authority. These activities can be absorbed within existing staff and resources, and therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

*Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

### II. C - Expenditures

*Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

## Part III: Expenditure Detail

### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

### III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

**III. C - Operating FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

**III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)**

NONE

**Part IV: Capital Budget Impact**

**IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures**

NONE

**IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose**

NONE

**IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout**

*Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.*

NONE

**IV. D - Capital FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

**Part V: New Rule Making Required**

*Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.*

# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

<b>Bill Number:</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title:</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency:</b> 090-Office of State Treasurer
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## Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

**Estimated Cash Receipts to:**

**Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.**

**Estimated Operating Expenditures from:**

NONE

**Estimated Capital Budget Impact:**

NONE

*The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.*

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Jackie Kauble	Phone: 360-786-7125	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Preparation: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Approval: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 03/03/2026
OFM Review: Rayanna Evans	Phone: (360) 902-0553	Date: 03/03/2026

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

### II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

*Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.*

SSB 6355 creates

1. the electric transmission operating account, coupled with the general fund as the recipient of the earnings from investments under RCW 43.84.092(4).
2. the electric transmission capital account and allows the account to retain its earnings from investments.

There will be some de-minimis work for OST which can be completed within current practices and resources.

### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

*Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

Projected cash flows are currently unavailable; therefore, estimated earnings from investments are indeterminable.

There may be an impact on the debt service limitation calculation. Changes to the earnings credited to the general fund impacts, by an equal amount, general state revenues.

### II. C - Expenditures

*Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

## Part III: Expenditure Detail

### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

### III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

**III. C - Operating FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

### III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

## Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

### IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

### IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

### IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

*Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.*

NONE

**IV. D - Capital FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

## **Part V: New Rule Making Required**

*Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.*

# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Revised

<b>Bill Number:</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title:</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency:</b> 103-Department of Commerce
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## Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

### Estimated Cash Receipts to:

ACCOUNT	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
General Fund-State 001-1				35,000	50,000
<b>Total \$</b>	0	0	0	35,000	50,000

### Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years	0.0	1.6	0.8	2.7	2.7
<b>Account</b>					
General Fund-State 001-1	0	955,330	955,330	2,471,990	2,119,266
<b>Total \$</b>	0	955,330	955,330	2,471,990	2,119,266

### Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

*The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.*

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Jackie Kauble	Phone: 360-786-7125	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Preparation: Mamie Perez	Phone: 360-725-3134	Date: 03/04/2026
Agency Approval: Joseph Piper	Phone: 360-725-3042	Date: 03/04/2026
OFM Review: Marie Davis	Phone: (360) 890-1163	Date: 03/08/2026

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

### II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

*Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.*

Changes from SB 6355 to S SB6355 are:

Sec. 5 adds direction to WETA to make reasonable and diligent efforts via negotiation prior to exercising the power of eminent domain.

Sec 6 is modified to

Remove WETA as SEPA lead and instead directs it to assist the project proponent in following SEPA;

Remove WETA as tribal consultation lead, and instead directs it to support tribal consultation by pursuing reasonable efforts to facilitate G2G consultation.

Sec. 7 is modified to clarify language about qualified electrical employees, but there is no substantive change.

S SB 6355 creates a Washington Electric Transmission Authority (Authority) to facilitate electric transmission development in the state. The Authority is run by an executive director with a ten-member board of directors. The board will meet no less than quarterly. Commerce will provide staff support to the board. Commerce will reimburse travel costs for those advisory board members eligible for reimbursement. Commerce (and subsequently the Authority) will perform or adopt regional or federal transmission planning and work with stakeholders, utilities, and transmission developers to build new transmission lines and upgrade existing transmission lines. It has the authority to develop, own, and act as a developer of last resort.

Sections 1 and 2 establish legislative intent to create a Transmission Authority described in the bill and include relevant definitions for terms used in the bill.

Section 3 establishes the responsibilities for Commerce in the legislation, including identifying high-priority corridors, to be completed by October 30, 2027. Commerce must provide administrative, staff support, and oversight until the executive director is hired.

Section 4 creates a 10-member board of directors to advise the Authority on policies that are consistent with the purposes of this chapter, including land use and local permitting processes. Commerce will provide administrative and staff support to the board of directors prior to the executive director being hired. The board of directors must meet quarterly (remotely before an executive director is hired by June 30, 2027).

Section 5 creates the Washington Electric Transmission Authority as a public body and instrumentality of the state exercising essential government functions related to transmission and sets out the purposes of the Authority. The Authority will collaborate with local jurisdictions, tribes, and electric utilities. This section directs the Authority to employ an executive director, appointed by the board of directors. The executive director will be a WMS3 Director. The authority must update the corridor identification study by October 30, 2032, and no less than every five years thereafter. The Authority must submit a report to the legislature of its activities and operating and financial statements by December 1, 2026, and every July 1 after. The authority must charge and collect an application review fee of \$5,000 from each entity that applies for the use of services provided under a partnership with the authority.

Section 6 allows the Authority to adopt rules to implement the bill, enter into contracts and agreements, lease, purchase, accept donations of, or otherwise own, hold, improve, or use any property, and to own transmission equipment and systems. The Authority may also use eminent domain to acquire right of way. The Authority may utilize services of executive departments of the state under mutually agreeable terms. The Authority may assist the project proponent in

following SEPA and may support and facilitate tribal consultation. The Authority must also adopt rules for initial local investment committee fee and annual local investment commitment fee to distribute to counties, cities, towns, and tribes. The Authority would need continued outside counsel and consultants to arrange complex partnerships and financing agreements with utilities and developers.

Section 7 sets labor standards for projects where the Authority selects a qualified transmission builder or operator.

Section 8 creates a tribal clean energy partnership consisting of 8-44 members. The work of this partnership includes pathways for tribal participation in clean energy development, opportunities for financing tribal clean energy development, approaches to expanding the tribal clean energy workforce, and the development of model tribal consultation processes, contracts, defined mitigation options, incentives, and community investment agreements related to the siting and permitting of energy facilities. Commerce may also convene a clean energy advisory committee to provide feedback on work completed by the partnership.

Section 9 creates a new electric transmission operating account in the state treasury.

Section 10 creates a new electric transmission capital account in the state treasury.

Section 11 instructs the authority that all information it obtains that is critical energy infrastructure information or proprietary technical or business information shall be confidential.

Section 12-17 includes requirements for surplus balances in the treasury account.

Section 18 establishes expiration dates for various sections in the bill.

Sections 19 establishes effective dates for various sections in the bill.

Sections 20 establishes effective dates for various sections in the bill.

## **II. B - Cash receipts Impact**

*Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

Sec. 5(6). – Collect application review fee of \$5,000 from each entity that applies for use of services under a partnership with WETA

FY27 – 0

FY28 - \$15,000

FY29 - \$20,000

FY30 - \$25,000

FY31 - \$25,000

## **II. C - Expenditures**

*Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

To meet the requirements of S SB 6355, Commerce estimates the following:

### Energy and Innovation Expenditures

Section 3 requires Commerce to conduct a corridor identification study by October 30, 2027. Based on current market trends, the cost is anticipated to be \$460,000. The assessment will be completed by an external consultant contracted through Commerce and performed every five years thereafter by the Authority.

Section 4 establishes a board of directors of government, industry, and advocacy representatives. The board of directors' staff are included in the staff required by Section 3.

Section 5 establishes the Authority with an Executive Director who may employ staff as necessary.

0.20 EMS 2 (417 hours) to hire the contractor and support their work in FY 27 and the first six months of FY 28.

0.10 Administrative Assistant 3 (208 hours) to provide administrative support to the board of directors in FY 27-31 (and ongoing).

1.0 FTE WMS3 Director (2088 hours) in FY28-31 (and ongoing) to employ staff for the office and oversee as the primary director.

1.0 FTE Management Analyst 4 (2088 hours) in FY29-31 (and ongoing) for permitting/SEPA lead work, local government/tribal work, and staff the board of directors.

Section 6 requires the Authority to adopt rules to implement the bill, enter into contracts and agreements, lease, purchase, accept donations of, or otherwise own, hold, improve, or use any property, and own transmission equipment and systems. This will require rulemakings on at least six topics (some of which could likely be combined). These rulemakings will be separate but will rely on the same staff outlined below. Outside counsel and consultants would be needed in FY28-31 to develop contractual arrangements and agreements for projects, leases, purchases, and competitive bidding, as an estimated cost of \$400,000 per fiscal year.

Section 8 directs Commerce to establish a tribal clean energy partnership work group consisting of 8-12 members with expertise as defined by the legislation, plus an invitation to all federally recognized Indian tribes in Washington and those with treaty ceded lands in Washington (32 tribes). Thus, the workgroup membership could range from 8-44 (for cost estimates below, we assume 30 workgroup members). Commerce will lead the work group with support from a contractor.

By April 1, 2027, the workgroup will submit an interim report to the appropriate legislative committees that documents its findings to date. The report will be drafted by contractors and will be overseen and reviewed by Commerce staff.

By December 1, 2027, the workgroup will submit a report to the appropriate committees of the legislature providing information as described in the legislation. The report will be drafted by contractors and will be overseen and reviewed by Commerce staff.

By December 1, 2027, the work group will submit a report to the office of equity pursuant to RCW 43.18A.030.17. The report will be drafted by contractors and will be overseen and reviewed by Commerce staff. This section expires June 1, 2028.

Commerce estimates the following staff are needed to complete the work of this section:

0.50 FTE EMS2 (1044 hours) in FY27-28 to provide subject matter expertise and expert policy advice or consultation in coordinating development of the workgroup and advisory committee outputs. This position will oversee the contract with contractor and will be responsible for successful implementation of tasks and completion of reports. The position will represent Commerce during workgroup and advisory group meetings and will work closely with contractor on process design and the development of all written work produced by the workgroup.

0.20 FTE Administrative Assistant 3 (417 hours) in FY 27-28 This position will facilitate all travel and meeting logistics and reimbursement for workgroup or advisory committee members.

0.10 FTE Management Analyst 4 (208 hours) in FY27-28 to coordinate with, support, and assist with the implementation of workgroup and advisory committee (business and organizational planning, research and analysis, formulating

recommendations, and coordinating implementation).

A contractor will be needed to support Commerce with process design, information gathering, facilitation of workgroup and advisory committee, scheduling and logistics, note-taking, report drafting, and other duties as needed. This is estimated to be \$100,000 per year for FY27-28.

For illustrative purposes, Commerce estimates the following costs for travel for the Tribal Partnership Workgroup and the Advisory Committee:

#### Tribal Partnership Workgroup

Commerce assumes the workgroup will consist of 30 members. In FY27, the workgroup will meet every other month for a total of five meetings. The first meeting will be in-person, and the rest will be virtual.

In-person meeting will be in Seattle at a Commerce location. Costs, including food and travel, are estimated at approximately \$10,657.

Commerce estimates 11 out of the 30 people in the workgroup would receive compensation of \$57 per hour to attend the workgroup meetings. In FY27, the group would meet every other month, totaling five meetings at three hours each, the projected compensation amount would be \$9,405. In FY28, there would be three meetings at similar rates, totaling \$5,643.

Commerce also anticipates 11 out of the 30 people in the workgroup would receive compensation of \$57 per hour for work outside of the scheduled meetings. In FY27, Commerce estimates two hours per month for 11 months totaling \$13,794, and two hours per month for six months in FY28 totaling \$7,524.

#### Advisory Committee

Commerce assumes two individuals will receive compensation for a similar rate of \$57 per hour for four, three-hour meetings (three in FY27 and one in FY28). This equates to \$1,026 in FY27 and \$342 in FY28.

#### Section 3, 5, and 6 Expenditures

##### Salaries and Benefits

FY27: \$50,165

FY28: \$262,175

FY29: \$386,484

FY30: \$386,484

FY31: \$386,484

##### Goods and Services

FY27: \$1,500

FY28: \$6,000

FY29: \$10,500

FY30: \$10,500

FY31: \$10,500

##### Professional Service Contracts

FY27: \$460,000

FY28: \$400,000

FY29: \$400,000

FY30: \$400,000

FY31: \$400,000

Intra-agency Reimbursement

FY27: \$15,902  
FY28: \$83,109  
FY29: \$122,515  
FY30: \$122,515  
FY31: \$122,515

Total Costs

FY27: \$527,567  
FY28: \$751,284  
FY29: 919,499  
FY30: 919,499  
FY31: 919,499

Section 8 Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits

FY27: \$135,482  
FY28: \$135,482

Goods and Services

FY27: \$4,000  
FY28: \$4,000

Travel

FY27: \$10,657

Professional Service Contracts

FY27: \$100,000  
FY28: \$100,000

Grants

FY27: \$24,225  
FY28: \$13,509

Intra-agency Reimbursement

FY27: \$42,948  
FY28: \$42,948

Total Costs

FY27: \$317,312  
FY28: \$295,939

Local Government Division Expenditures

The Department of Commerce (Department) is responsible for implementation of and technical assistance for the Growth Management Act (GMA), codified as chapter 36.70A RCW. The GMA governs land use decisions, critical area protections, mitigation requirements and protections of agricultural and natural resource lands of long-term commercial significance to the state.

The Department assumes development of guidance for local governments and tribes on the impacts to critical areas and agricultural and natural resource lands from the siting of energy infrastructure and appropriate mitigation will be

necessary and would begin during FY28 with an expected project duration of two years.

The Department assumes land use expertise and local permitting expertise will be necessary to implement this act.

The Department also assumes assistance as the lead agency on SEPA will require knowledge of critical areas mitigation and controls on the conversion of agricultural and natural resource lands.

0.10 FTE Washington Management Services 3 (209 hours) FY27 and 0.20 FTE (418 hours) ongoing thereafter to serve as the subject matter expert on the GMA. This staff member establishes and implements statewide land use policies. This staff is the decision maker over all elements of the program. Staff provide expert policy advice or consultation on a range of issues specific to the Growth Management Act and to areas that have agency wide implications.

0.10 FTE Washington Management Services 1 (209 hours) FY27 and ongoing thereafter to serve as the liaison between tribes and local governments on land use issues. This staff is also the manager of the Tribal Dispute Resolution Program and will provide in-person support to tribes.

0.30 FTE Commerce Specialist 4 (627 hours) FY27 and ongoing thereafter to serve as expert for land use and permitting energy infrastructure in support of local governments. This staff will lead the development of guidance for local governments and tribes on the impacts to critical areas and agricultural and natural resource lands from the siting of energy infrastructure and appropriate mitigation.

Salaries and benefits:

FY27: \$80,145  
FY28: \$102,304  
FY29: \$102,304  
FY30: \$102,304  
FY31: \$102,304

Goods and services:

FY27: \$2,500  
FY28: \$3,000  
FY29: \$3,000  
FY30: \$3,000  
FY31: \$3,000

Travel:

FY27: \$2,400  
FY28: \$2,400  
FY29: \$2,400  
FY30: \$2,400  
FY31: \$2,400

Professional Service Contract: The Department assumes the need for one professional service contract to assist staff in the development of guidance for tribes and local governments regarding the permitting and siting of agrivoltaics and other renewable energy generating projects. The environmental impacts on cultural resources, critical areas, the forest industry and lands of agricultural and commercial long-term significance to the state requires expertise not available within the agency.

FY28: \$100,000  
FY29: \$125,000

Intra-agency reimbursement:

FY27: \$25,406  
FY28: \$32,430

FY29: \$32,430  
FY30: \$32,430  
FY31: \$32,430

Total cost:

FY27: \$110,451  
FY28: \$240,134  
FY29: \$265,134  
FY30: \$140,134  
FY31: \$140,134

Total Agency Expenditures:

Salaries and Benefits:

FY27: \$265,792  
FY28: \$499,961  
FY29: \$488,788  
FY30: \$488,788  
FY31: \$488,788

Goods and Services:

FY27: \$8,000  
FY28: \$13,000  
FY29: \$13,500  
FY30: \$13,500  
FY31: \$13,500

Travel:

FY27: \$13,057  
FY28: \$2,400  
FY29: \$2,400  
FY30: \$2,400  
FY31: \$2,400

Professional Service Contracts:

FY27: \$560,000  
FY28: \$600,000  
FY29: \$525,000  
FY30: \$400,000  
FY31: \$400,000

Grants:

FY27: \$24,225  
FY28: \$13,509

Intra-agency Reimbursement:

FY27: \$84,256  
FY28: \$183,893  
FY29: \$180,351  
FY30: \$180,351  
FY31: \$180,351

Total Costs:

FY27: \$955,330  
 FY28: \$1,287,357  
 FY29: \$1,184,633  
 FY30: \$1,059,633  
 FY31: \$1,059,633

**Part III: Expenditure Detail**

**III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures**

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
001-1	General Fund	State	0	955,330	955,330	2,471,990	2,119,266
<b>Total \$</b>			0	955,330	955,330	2,471,990	2,119,266

**III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose**

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31	
FTE Staff Years		1.6	0.8	2.7	2.7	
A-Salaries and Wages		179,589	179,589	668,073	660,524	
B-Employee Benefits		86,203	86,203	320,676	317,052	
C-Professional Service Contracts		560,000	560,000	1,125,000	800,000	
E-Goods and Other Services		8,000	8,000	26,500	27,000	
G-Travel		13,057	13,057	4,800	4,800	
J-Capital Outlays						
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers						
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services		24,225	24,225	13,509		
P-Debt Service						
S-Interagency Reimbursements						
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements		84,256	84,256	313,432	309,890	
9-						
<b>Total \$</b>		0	955,330	955,330	2,471,990	2,119,266

**III. C - Operating FTE Detail:** *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
Administrative Assistant 3	56,942		0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
Commerce Specialist 4	93,287		0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
EMS Band 2	132,932		0.7	0.4	0.3	
Management Analyst 4	93,287		0.1	0.1	0.6	1.0
WMS Band 1	111,934		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
WMS Band 3	149,722		0.1	0.1	1.2	1.2
<b>Total FTEs</b>			1.6	0.8	2.7	2.7

**III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)**

Program	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31	
Energy Division (500)		844,879	844,879	1,966,722	1,838,998	
Local Government Division (600)		110,451	110,451	505,268	280,268	
<b>Total \$</b>			955,330	955,330	2,471,990	2,119,266

**Part IV: Capital Budget Impact**

**IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures**

NONE

**IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose**

NONE

**IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout**

*Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.*

NONE

**IV. D - Capital FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

**Part V: New Rule Making Required**

*Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.*

Section 6 will require the Authority to either develop internal operating procedures or conduct rulemaking on the topics below:

The definition of a “qualified transmission builder or operator”

Developing a transparent process for competitive requests for proposals, evaluating proposals, and selecting buyers of transmission facilities

Eminent domain

Selection of and participation in projects

Local investment fees

# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

<b>Bill Number:</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title:</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency:</b> 215-Utilities and Transportation Commission
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## Part I: Estimates

**No Fiscal Impact**

### Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

### Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
<b>Account</b>					
Public Service Revolving Account-State 111-1	66,087	66,087	132,174	0	0
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>66,087</b>	<b>66,087</b>	<b>132,174</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

*The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.*

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Jackie Kauble	Phone: 360-786-7125	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Preparation: Michelle Parish	Phone: 360-664-1158	Date: 03/06/2026
Agency Approval: Michelle Parish	Phone: 360-664-1158	Date: 03/06/2026
OFM Review: Renee Martine	Phone: (360) 915-4588	Date: 03/06/2026

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

### II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

*Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.*

Sections 1 create the Washington electric transmission authority to: (a) Improve reliability and resilience, including during extreme weather events; (b) Increase access to low-cost renewable energy; (c) Achieve clean electricity requirements and greenhouse gas emissions limits; (d) Support economic growth; and (e) Maintain affordable energy rates. (No NEW Fiscal Impact)

Section 2 creates definitions that apply to the Washington electric transmission authority. Sub. Bill adds definitions including “investor-owned utilities” (No NEW Fiscal Impact)

NEW Sec. 3 - creates new responsibilities for Commerce related to planning and supporting electric transmission infrastructure in Washington. It directs the department to identify priority transmission corridors, allows it to hire independent experts to assist with that work, and requires it to provide administrative support for the newly created Washington Electric Transmission Authority until that authority is fully staffed. Identify high-priority transmission corridors by Oct. 30, 2027. (No Fiscal Impact)

Section 4 discusses the 10-member board requirements and that the Board of directors must be appointed by Jan. 1, 2027, and an Exec. Director hired by June 30, 2027. (No NEW fiscal impact)

Sec. 5 – 19 – Creates a state electric transmission authority empowered to plan finance own operate partner on or sell high-voltage transmission projects. It will adopt rules, use eminent domain (new addition related to efforts to acquire property before exercising eminent domain), receive and expend funds, coordinate with utilities, tribes, and finance authorities. It will require qualified Builders, it will form a tribal clean energy partnership workgroup, define and protect confidential critical energy infrastructure information, establish operating and capital transmission accounts, and grant SEP a categorical exemption in tribal consultation procedures for specified upgrades to existing 115 KV transmission lines. (No NEW fiscal impact –changes in section numbers, additional information/clarification on duties including NEW change in language to a more supportive tone related to environmental policy act process and tribal relations and who should perform all construction and maintenance work, removes incentive rate of return impact which removes fiscal impact from previous version.)

Sections 20 through 22 set expiration requirements. (No Fiscal Impact)

### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

*Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

UTC assumes no cash receipts will go to UTC because of this legislation.

### II. C - Expenditures

*Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

Commission participation in separate Authority rulemaking

Authority is required to adopt new rulemakings, taking about six months and requiring six hybrid meetings to complete. This will require staff participation, including data and policy analysis. Staff anticipates this work to begin July 1, 2026.

FY2026 and FY2027 - \$66,087 per FY

(Section Manager | Energy Rates & Services, 0.07 FTE; Deputy Director | Energy Rates & Services, 0.02 FTE; Policy Advisor, 0.07 FTE; Regulatory Analyst 3, 0.14 FTE; Attorney General, 0.03 FTE; Director | Regulatory Services, 0.02

### Part III: Expenditure Detail

#### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
111-1	Public Service Revolving Account	State	66,087	66,087	132,174	0	0
<b>Total \$</b>			66,087	66,087	132,174	0	0

#### III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years	0.4	0.4	0.4		
A-Salaries and Wages	44,957	44,957	89,914		
B-Employee Benefits	15,735	15,735	31,470		
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	5,395	5,395	10,790		
G-Travel					
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
<b>Total \$</b>	66,087	66,087	132,174	0	0

#### III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
Attorney General	238,800	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Deputy Director, Energy Rates and Services	125,100	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Deputy Director, Policy	124,392	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Director, Regulatory Services	148,428	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Policy Advisor, Energy	107,700	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Regulatory Analyst 3	103,536	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Section Manager, Energy Rates and Services Unit A	111,432	0.1	0.1	0.1		
<b>Total FTEs</b>		0.4	0.4	0.4		0.0

#### III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

### Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

#### IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

#### IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

#### IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

*Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.*

NONE

**IV. D - Capital FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

## **Part V: New Rule Making Required**

*Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.*

# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

<b>Bill Number:</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title:</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency:</b> 355-Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
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**Part I: Estimates**

**No Fiscal Impact**

**Estimated Cash Receipts to:**

NONE

**Estimated Operating Expenditures from:**

NONE

**Estimated Capital Budget Impact:**

NONE

*The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.*

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Jackie Kauble	Phone: 360-786-7125	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Preparation: Diann Lewallen	Phone: 360-407-8121	Date: 03/04/2026
Agency Approval: Annie Strader	Phone: 360-706-4215	Date: 03/04/2026
OFM Review: Rayanna Evans	Phone: (360) 902-0553	Date: 03/05/2026

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

### II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

*Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.*

This bill creates a new Washington electric transmission authority to improve transmission reliability, resilience, and affordability. It outlines the priorities and responsibilities for the new Authority and assigns some supporting activities to the Department of Commerce that will assist the new Authority. The substitute adds a requirement for the electric transmission authority to make a reasonable and diligent effort to acquire property and interests through negotiation prior to exercising eminent domain. It also clarifies that the Authority will support government-to-government consultation with federally recognized tribes affected by partnerships on transmission projects.

The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation assumes there will be no direct impact as a result of the activities outlined in the bill, therefore, assumes no fiscal impact.

### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

*Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

### II. C - Expenditures

*Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

## Part III: Expenditure Detail

### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

### III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

**III. C - Operating FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

### III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

## Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

### IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

### IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

### IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

*Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.*

NONE

**IV. D - Capital FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

## **Part V: New Rule Making Required**

*Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.*

# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

<b>Bill Number:</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title:</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency:</b> 461-Department of Ecology
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## Part I: Estimates

**No Fiscal Impact**

**Estimated Cash Receipts to:**

NONE

**Estimated Operating Expenditures from:**

NONE

**Estimated Capital Budget Impact:**

NONE

*The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.*

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Jackie Kauble	Phone: 360-786-7125	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Preparation: Kelcy Shaffer	Phone: 564-200-3781	Date: 03/05/2026
Agency Approval: Garret Ward	Phone: 360-789-7938	Date: 03/05/2026
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 03/05/2026

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

### II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

*Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.*

This bill would create a new Washington Electric Transmission Authority (Authority) to support planning and expansion of new transmission and distributed energy. The Department of Commerce (Commerce) would be required to staff and support the Authority and identify high priority transmission corridors. The bill would also establish a Tribal Clean Energy Partnership Work Group in Commerce to develop pathways for Tribal participation, find opportunities for joint ownership, research barriers to Tribal access, and develop model Tribal consultation processes and various agreements.

Changes between SB 6355 and SSB 6355:

Section 6 would be clarified to say that the Authority would assist the project proponent with following the State Environmental Policy Act process, rather than saying it would be the “lead for the project proponent.”

Section Summary of SSB 6355:

Section 1 would lay out legislative findings and intent to create the Washington Electric Transmission Authority (Authority) to improve transmission reliability, resilience, and affordability.

Section 2 would define the Authority, board of directors, and other terms relevant to the bill.

Section 3 would add a new section to chapter 43.21F RCW, on the State Energy Office, that would require Commerce to identify high priority transmission corridors by October 30, 2027, allow Commerce to work with a contractor to do so, and direct Commerce to provide all support for and oversee the Authority until an executive director is hired.

Section 4 would create a board of directors to oversee the Authority. This section would include specific appointment and experience requirements for members of the board, authorize external consultation, and lay out other board procedures.

Section 5 would establish the Authority as a public body. It would lay out the priorities, goals, and duties of the Authority. The Authority would be required to submit a report of its activities to the Governor and Legislature by December 1, 2027, and annually every July 1st thereafter.

Section 6 would list the powers of the Authority, including exercising eminent domain after making efforts to acquire property, entering contracts, applying for funding, entering into partnerships, charging fees for services, and assisting the project proponent with following the State Environmental Policy Act process.

Section 7 would require the Authority to ensure all work be performed by qualified employees of an electric utility or contractors meeting detailed qualifications.

Section 8 would add a new section to chapter 43.31 RCW, regarding the Department of Commerce, establishing a Tribal Clean Energy Partnership Work Group (work group). The section would lay out the required work product, membership, and deadlines. The work group would be required to submit a report to the legislature by December 1, 2027. The report would be required to include identified barriers to participation, recommended changes to law or rules, identified project opportunities, and frameworks for partnership, ownership, and investment. This section would expire on June 1, 2028.

Section 9 would establish the electric transmission operating account in the state treasury.

Section 10 would establish the electric transmission capital account in the state treasury.

Section 11 would define the types of information to be considered confidential and not subject to inspection or disclosure

pursuant to chapter 42.56 RCW, the Public Records Act.

Sections 12 - 17 would amend RCW 43.84.092 and various session laws related to the deposit of surplus balance investment earnings to add the electric transmission capital account to the list of accounts that receive their proportionate share of earnings from the state treasurer.

Section 18 would add expiration dates for Sections 12 – 16 of this bill.

Section 19 would add effective dates for Section 13 – 17 of this bill.

Section 20 would add Sections 1, 2, 4 - 7, and 9 -11 as a new chapter in Title 43 RCW, State Government – Executive.

This bill will not impact Ecology. The bill would therefore have no fiscal impact.

## **II. B - Cash receipts Impact**

*Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

## **II. C - Expenditures**

*Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

## **Part III: Expenditure Detail**

### **III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures**

NONE

### **III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose**

NONE

**III. C - Operating FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

### **III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)**

NONE

## **Part IV: Capital Budget Impact**

### **IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures**

NONE

### **IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose**

NONE

### **IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout**

*Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.*

NONE

**IV. D - Capital FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

**Part V: New Rule Making Required**

*Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.*

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

**Bill Number:** 6355 S SB

**Title:** Electric transmission system

## Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

### Legislation Impacts:

Cities: All cities. Potential local investment commitment fee revenue for high voltage projects.

Counties: All counties. Same as above.

Special Districts:

Specific jurisdictions only:

Variance occurs due to:

## Part II: Estimates

No fiscal impacts.

Expenditures represent one-time costs:

Legislation provides local option: Local governments have the option to enter into a partnership with the authority for use of services.

Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: The number of high voltage projects to be developed by the authority. Local investment commitment fee structure.

### Estimated revenue impacts to:

**Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.**

### Estimated expenditure impacts to:

None

## Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Kristine Williams	Phone: (564) 250-5931	Date: 03/05/2026
Leg. Committee Contact: Jackie Kauble	Phone: 360-786-7125	Date: 03/03/2026
Agency Approval: Alice Zillah	Phone: 360-725-5035	Date: 03/05/2026
OFM Review: Marie Davis	Phone: (360) 890-1163	Date: 03/08/2026

## **Part IV: Analysis**

### **A. SUMMARY OF BILL**

*Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.*

This note is on S SB 6355 and compares it to SB 6355.

#### **CHANGES BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND THE PRIOR VERSION OF THE BILL:**

This version of the bill modifies certain responsibilities of the Washington Electric Transmission authority (authority). These changes include:

Sec. 5 is amended to include a subsection which requires the authority to make reasonable and diligent efforts to acquire property or an interest in property by negotiation prior to exercising the power of eminent domain.

Sec. 6 is amended to remove the authority's state environmental policy act lead role. The authority may provide assistance to the project proponent and support tribal consultations with government entities.

Sec. 7 is amended to specify that all construction and maintenance work for authority transmission projects can be performed by an electric utility using qualified electrical employees or a contractor or independent transmission developer using qualified electrical employees and using apprentices enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program.

These changes do not affect the fiscal impacts discussed below.

This bill includes several effective dates for various sections. Please refer to the bill for specific dates.

#### **SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL**

This bill creates the Washington Electric Transmission Authority (authority) to improve the reliability and capacity of the electric transmission system in Washington state. The authority will provide development transmission services and conduct other related activities in consultation with local and federal jurisdictions, utilities, transmission developers, federally recognized Indian tribes, and affected communities.

### **B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS**

*Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.*

This bill has no impact on local government expenditures.

Local governments may choose to enter into a partnership with the authority to use services provided under a partnership agreement. If a local government chose to adopt the local option, it may incur administrative and legal costs to review the partnership agreement in addition to the \$5,000 fee imposed. The partnership may also require city council or county commissioners' approval depending on the scope of the agreement. However, there is no fiscal impact on local government expenditures due to the local option.

Assumptions released by the Department of Commerce state that the department anticipates eight meetings of the tribal clean energy partnership work group (every other month) for three hours per meeting and one on-line public meeting. One work group meeting will be in-person, the remainder will be online. The work group will hold one public online meeting before June 1, 2028. Commerce will identify and appoint members of the work group to include between four and six representatives of electric utilities, including consumer-owned utilities. For the purposes of this fiscal note, the Local Government Fiscal Note Program assumes that the additional work assigned to work group members will fall within current duties and the travel costs associated with the one required in-person meeting will be de minimus. Therefore, there is no fiscal impact to local governments.

## C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

*Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.*

This bill has an indeterminate impact on local government revenues.

The initial and/or annual local investment impact fees to be distributed to counties, cities, towns, and tribes will be in proportion to the project's impact and will be transferred with the title if the project is sold. These revenues cannot be estimated until the rulemaking is completed and are therefore indeterminate. The revenue impact of this legislation is indeterminate.

### SOURCES

Department of Commerce



# Multiple Agency Ten-Year Analysis Summary

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system
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This ten-year analysis is limited to the estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases.

## Estimated Cash Receipts

	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2028	Fiscal Year 2029	Fiscal Year 2030	Fiscal Year 2031	Fiscal Year 2032	Fiscal Year 2033	Fiscal Year 2034	Fiscal Year 2035	2026-35 TOTAL
Office of the Governor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office of State Treasurer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department of Commerce	0	0	15,000	20,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	185,000
Utilities and Transportation Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department of Ecology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>185,000</b>



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency</b> 075 Office of the Governor
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

## Estimates

**No Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Kathy Cody	Phone: (360) 480-7237	Date: 3/4/2026 9:03:38 am
Agency Approval: Jamie Langford	Phone: (360) 870-7766	Date: 3/4/2026 9:03:38 am
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date:



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency</b> 090 Office of State Treasurer
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

## Estimates

**No Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 3/3/2026 10:40:28 am
Agency Approval: Dan Mason	Phone: (360) 902-8990	Date: 3/3/2026 10:40:28 am
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date:



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency</b> 103 Department of Commerce
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

## Estimates

**No Cash Receipts**
                 
  **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts**
                 
  **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

## Estimated Cash Receipts

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2028	Fiscal Year 2029	Fiscal Year 2030	Fiscal Year 2031	Fiscal Year 2032	Fiscal Year 2033	Fiscal Year 2034	Fiscal Year 2035	2026-35 TOTAL
Application review fee	001			15,000	20,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	185,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>15,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>185,000</b>
<b>Biennial Totals</b>				<b>35,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>185,000</b>

## Narrative Explanation (Required for Indeterminate Cash Receipts)

Sec. 5(6). – Collect application review fee of \$5,000 from each entity that applies for use of services under a partnership with WETA

FY27 – 0  
 FY28 - \$15,000  
 FY29 - \$20,000  
 FY30 - \$25,000  
 FY31 - \$25,000  
 FY32 - \$25,000  
 FY33 - \$25,000  
 FY34 - \$25,000  
 FY35 - \$25,000



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency</b> 103 Department of Commerce
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Agency Preparation: Mamie Perez	Phone: 360-725-3134	Date: 3/4/2026 3:52:27 pm
Agency Approval: Joseph Piper	Phone: 360-725-3042	Date: 3/4/2026 3:52:27 pm
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date:



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency</b> 215 Utilities and Transportation Commission
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

## Estimates

**No Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Michelle Parish	Phone: 360-664-1158	Date: 3/6/2026 11:45:15 am
Agency Approval: Michelle Parish	Phone: 360-664-1158	Date: 3/6/2026 11:45:15 am
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date:



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency</b> 355 Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp> .

## Estimates

**No Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Diann Lewallen	Phone: 360-407-8121	Date: 3/4/2026 8:07:01 am
Agency Approval: Annie Strader	Phone: 360-706-4215	Date: 3/4/2026 8:07:01 am
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date:



# Ten-Year Analysis

<b>Bill Number</b> 6355 S SB	<b>Title</b> Electric transmission system	<b>Agency</b> 461 Department of Ecology
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

## Estimates

**No Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts**
                         
  **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Kelcy Shaffer	Phone: 564-200-3781	Date: 3/5/2026 11:51:46 am
Agency Approval: Garret Ward	Phone: 360-789-7938	Date: 3/5/2026 11:51:46 am
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date: