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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7000

BILL NUMBER: SB 378

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 23, 2005

BILL AMENDED: Mar 22, 2005

SUBJECT: Biodiesel and Ethanol Tax Incentives.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Weatherwax

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Woodruff

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) The bill provides that the Indiana Economic Development Corporation reviews and approves applications for the Biodiesel, Blended Biodiesel, and Ethanol Income Tax Credits. The bill also provides standards that the Corporation must apply. The bill creates a \$20,000,000 overall cap for the biodiesel, blended biodiesel, and ethanol producer credits. It allows the Corporation to allocate the maximum credits for all taxpayers for all taxable years so long as each credit has a cap of at least \$4,000,000. The bill establishes a credit cap for a particular producer at \$3,000,000 for all taxable years but allows the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to increase this cap to \$5,000,000. It also allows credit carryovers for six taxable years. The bill provides for the expiration of the Blended Biodiesel Retailer Credit as of January 1, 2007. The bill extends the Blended Biodiesel Retail Sales Tax Credits to dealers that distribute blended biodiesel at retail by a means other than a metered pump.

The bill provides a tax credit for a taxpayer who places into service an integrated coal gasification powerplant. The bill requires the taxpayer to enter an agreement with the Economic Development Corporation requiring the taxpayer to use Indiana coal and satisfy other requirements relating to the operation of the powerplant. The bill provides for allocating the credit among co-owners of a integrated coal gasification powerplant or owners of a pass-through entity. The bill corrects an internal reference and makes other related changes.

Effective Date: Upon passage; January 1, 2005 (retroactive); January 1, 2006.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC):* The bill provides for the IEDC to administer the application and approval process for: (1) the existing Biodiesel, Blended Biodiesel, and Ethanol Income Tax Credits; and (2) the Coal Gasification Technology Investment Tax Credit

(created by the bill). The IEDC also must monitor compliance of recipients of the Coal Gasification Technology Investment Credit with the provisions the tax credit agreement between the IEDC and the credit recipient. The IEDC should be able to implement this program with current staffing and resource levels.

Department of State Revenue (DOR): The DOR would incur administrative expenses relating to the revision of tax forms, instructions, and computer programs to incorporate the Coal Gasification Technology Investment Tax Credit. The DOR should be able to implement these changes with current staffing and resource levels

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC): The IURC would have to make determination relating to the public necessity for new integrated coal gasification powerplants proposed to the IEDC for the Coal Gasification Technology Investment Tax Credit.

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) *Biodiesel/Ethanol Tax Credits*: The bill makes several changes relating to the current tax credits for biodiesel, blended biodiesel, and ethanol production, and for blended biodiesel sales effective beginning in 2005.

(1) The bill requires a taxpayer who wants to claim the biodiesel, blended biodiesel, and ethanol production credits to obtain certification of credits from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). The taxpayer must provide the certification to the DOR in order to claim the credit. A noncode section of the bill requires that a taxpayer who is eligible for the biodiesel, blended biodiesel, or ethanol production credits in 2005 under current law is eligible under the bill only if the taxpayer complies with the new requirements of the bill. This requirement, however, does not apply to taxpayers eligible for the blended biodiesel sales credit under the current law.

(2) The bill provides that the credit for sales of blended biodiesel by Indiana retailers may not be taken for amounts distributed at retail after December 31, 2006. In addition, the bill changes the applicability of the credit. Under current law, the sales must be by a dealer operating a service station at which the blended biodiesel is dispensed through metered pumps. The bill eliminates these requirements and provides that the credit is applicable to blended biodiesel sales to end users in Indiana. This change would increase the number of vendors who could obtain the credit, but only up to the current law limit of \$1.0 M for all taxpayers and all taxable years.

(3) The bill establishes a new taxpayer and aggregate credit limits for the ethanol production, biodiesel production, and blended biodiesel production credits. The three credits combined would be limited to \$20 M for all taxpayers and all taxable years. Within that limit, the maximum amount claimed for each credit may not be less than \$4 M. In addition, the taxpayer limit for each credit would be set at \$3 M. However, the taxpayer maximum for the Ethanol Production Tax Credit may be increased to \$5 M with the approval of the IEDC. Currently, the biodiesel and blended biodiesel credits are limited to \$1.0 M for all taxpayers and all taxable years. The ethanol credit is limited to \$5 M per taxpayer, and \$10 M for all taxpayers and all taxable years.

As sufficient data is unavailable relating to production and sales of biodiesel and blended biodiesel in Indiana, the potential utilization of these credits in future years is indeterminable. It is important to note that the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) reports that there are currently 25 active biodiesel production plants operating in the U.S., with an annual production capacity of about 150 M gallons. The NBB also reports that 20 additional production plants have been proposed around the U.S. However, none of the active or proposed plants are in Indiana. The NBB also reports that a total of 24 biodiesel retailers currently operate in Indiana.

Data from the Renewable Fuels Association suggests that about 95 M gallons of ethanol are produced annually in Indiana. If credits are claimed on this annual production total, they could total about \$11.9 M in a single year.

(4) The bill provides that the tax credits may be claimed by shareholders, partners, or members of a pass through entity if the entity producing or selling biodiesel, blended biodiesel, or ethanol and receiving tax credits is a pass through entity.

(5) The bill eliminates the provision in current law requiring production credits to be reduced by any federal tax credit a taxpayer receives for biodiesel production. Recently, federal legislation was enacted providing federal excise tax and income tax credits for biodiesel production.

Coal Gasification Technology Investment Tax Credit: This tax credit could potentially reduce revenue from the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Tax, the Financial Institutions Tax, the Insurance Premiums Tax, and the Utility Receipts Tax when a taxpayer undertakes qualified investment in an integrated coal gasification powerplant. The potential tax credits that may be granted under this program is indeterminable and would depend upon review and approval by the IEDC and a determination by the IURC that the public convenience and necessity requires the construction of the integrated coal gasification powerplant. The net revenue impact of the tax credit also depends on the extent that tax collections on powerplant employees and other taxable activities attributable to the powerplant is less than or exceeds the credits granted to the taxpayer for the powerplant investment. However, if the powerplant investment would have occurred in the absence of the tax credit, the net impact would be the total credits claimed by the taxpayer.

The tax credit would be effective beginning in tax year 2006. However, since a review by the IEDC and the IURC is required, and since the credit may not be taken initially until the year a coal gasification plant is placed in service, a fiscal impact from this credit presumably will not arise for several years.

As an example, however, the tax credit for qualified investment totaling \$1,000 M would be \$75 M. The credit could be taken in 10 equal installments of \$7.5 M annually assuming the use of 100% of Indiana coal in the powerplant.

Background: Biodiesel/Ethanol Tax Credits: Current statute provides credits against a taxpayer's Sales and Use Tax, Adjusted Gross Income Tax, Financial Institutions Tax, or Insurance Premiums Tax liability for the production of biodiesel, blended biodiesel, and ethanol, and for the sale of blended biodiesel. The tax credits are as follows:

(1) A credit equal to \$1.00 for each gallon of biodiesel manufactured in Indiana and used to produce blended biodiesel.

(2) A credit equal to \$0.02 per gallon of blended biodiesel produced in Indiana and using biodiesel produced in Indiana.

(3) A credit equal to \$0.01 per gallon of blended biodiesel sold by Indiana retailers.

(4) A credit equal to \$0.125 per gallon of ethanol produced at an eligible facility in Indiana.

Coal Gasification Technology Investment Tax Credit: The bill establishes a tax credit against a taxpayer's tax

liability arising under the AGI Tax, Financial Institutions Tax, Insurance Premiums Tax, and Utility Receipts Tax for qualified investment in an integrated coal gasification powerplant. The credit is 10% of the first \$500 M in qualified investment, and 5% of the qualified investment exceeding \$500 M. The credit could be taken by the taxpayer in 10 annual installments beginning with the year in which the taxpayer places the integrated coal gasification powerplant into service. The annual credit installment is equal to the lesser of: (1) one-tenth of the credit amount; (2) 25% of the taxpayer's total state tax liability for the taxable year; or (3) a taxpayer's liability for the Utility Receipts Tax. The annual credit installment amount is then adjusted for the percentage of Indiana coal used in the integrated coal gasification powerplant in the taxable year for which the annual installment credit is granted. The taxpayer's total state tax liability is the total of the liabilities under the AGI Tax, Financial Institutions Tax, Insurance Premiums Tax, and Utility Receipts Tax for the taxable year. The bill also allows certain electric cooperatives to pass the credit through to their members.

To qualify for the tax credit, the taxpayer must make qualified investment in an integrated coal gasification powerplant. The investment includes expenditures in real and tangible personal property incorporated in such a powerplant, and transmission equipment located at the powerplant site and used to serve the powerplant. The powerplant must (1) be newly constructed; (2) convert coal into synthesis gas that can be used as a fuel to generate energy; (3) use the synthesis gas as a fuel to generate electric energy; and (4) be dedicated primarily to serving Indiana retail electric utility consumers. Credits would be approved by the IEDC upon entering into a tax credit agreement with the taxpayer. The provisions of the agreement would include:

- (1) a requirement that the taxpayer obtain from the IURC a determination that public convenience and necessity requires the construction of the powerplant;
- (2) a requirement that the taxpayer maintain operations at the powerplant for at least 10 years during the time the tax credit is available;
- (3) a requirement that the taxpayer pay an average wage each taxable year that the credit is available at least 125% of the average wage in the county where the powerplant is located;
- (4) a requirement that the taxpayer maintain during the term of the tax credit a total payroll paid to Indiana residents that is at least equal to the payroll level that existed before the qualified investment was made; and
- (5) a requirement that the taxpayer shall use Indiana coal at the integrated coal gasification powerplant.

Distribution of Affected Taxes: Revenue from the corporate AGI tax, the Insurance Premiums Tax, the Financial Institutions Tax, and Utility Receipts Tax is deposited in the state General Fund. The revenue from the individual AGI Tax is deposited in the state General Fund (86%) and the Property Tax Replacement Fund (14%). Sales Tax revenue is deposited in the Property Tax Replacement Fund (50%), the state General Fund (49.192%), the Public Mass Transportation Fund (0.635%), the Commuter Rail Service Fund (0.14%), and the Industrial Rail Service Fund (0.033%).

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Economic Development Corporation; Department of State Revenue; Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: National Biodiesel Board; Renewable Fuels Association; Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation.

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