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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6135**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Environment, Energy & Technology (originally sponsored by Senators Sheldon, Carlyle, and Short)

1 AN ACT Relating to system reliability during the clean energy  
2 transformation act implementation; adding a new section to chapter  
3 19.280 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the Northwest's  
6 power system is undergoing significant changes, including the  
7 retirement of baseload power generation resources, changes in  
8 hydroelectric output, and increases in distributed generation and  
9 variable renewable generation. Maintaining the adequacy, sufficiency,  
10 and availability of power supply to the growing populace in the  
11 Northwest is critical to the future of the region. Additional  
12 information sharing and coordination among utilities, planning  
13 entities, and state agencies is necessary to ensure that the region  
14 is adapting to the changing power system while maintaining the  
15 adequacy, sufficiency, and availability of the power supply for the  
16 region.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 19.280  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 (1) At least once every twelve months, the department and the  
20 commission shall jointly convene a meeting of representatives of the

1 investor-owned utilities and consumer-owned utilities, regional  
2 planning organizations, transmission operators, and other  
3 stakeholders to discuss the current, short-term, and long-term  
4 adequacy of energy resources to serve the state's electric needs, and  
5 address specific steps the utilities can take to coordinate planning  
6 in light of the significant changes to the Northwest's power system  
7 including, but not limited to, technological developments,  
8 retirements of legacy baseload power generation resources, and  
9 changes in laws and regulations affecting power supply options. The  
10 department and commission shall provide a summary of these meetings,  
11 including any specific action items, to the governor and legislature  
12 within sixty days of the meeting.

13 (2) This section expires January 1, 2025.

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