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Senate of Pennsylvania

TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator Dave Argall *DA*

DATE: July 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act

In the near future I will introduce legislation that will amend the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act of 2007 to further clarify its interpretation and implementation in Pennsylvania.

The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act was intended to expand the use of alternative energy in Pennsylvania by establishing energy mandates while including incentives in the form of energy credits to be given to all alternative energy plants that actually use alternative energy sources to create energy. The intention was to promote the development and expansion of alternative energy sources to lead our state and nation to energy independence.

Unfortunately, under certain circumstances, the AEPS energy credits the legislature intended to supply to alternative energy generators are currently being transferred (along with the energy) to utilities unless a contractual provision explicitly states otherwise. My legislation would correct this inequity and provide relief for alternative energy providers that entered into long-term contracts long before the creation of energy credits. Without this legislation, alternative energy producers in Pennsylvania are forced to make investments in alternative energy technology and/or regulatory compliance without benefit of the incentives provided by the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act.

If you would like to co-sponsor, please contact Susan Bentzel at sbentzel@pasen.gov or 7-2637.