

JAY INSLEE
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To the Honorable Speaker and Members,
The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Substitute House Bill No. 1623 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to addressing the extent to which Washington residents are at risk of rolling blackouts and power supply inadequacy events.”

I would first like to thank Representative Mosbrucker for her continued focus on meeting our state's energy needs. Ensuring that our electricity grid continues to reliably provide power to Washingtonians is a priority for me as well, which is why we have multiple state agencies already working on this issue. For example, the Department of Commerce and the Utilities and Transportation Commission already convene annual meetings to review resource adequacy needs. And, under the Clean Energy Transformation Act, the Department of Commerce is required to provide a report to the Legislature every four years on this issue. All of this work is in addition to the annual resource adequacy assessment conducted by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. In light of these ongoing efforts, the work outlined in the bill is redundant to, and its requirements do not align with, existing state government efforts on this important issue.

For these reasons I have vetoed Substitute House Bill No. 1623 in its entirety.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Inslee
Governor