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S.F. No. 1173 – Community energy transition grant program

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S.F. 1173 makes modifications and appropriates money for the community energy transition grant program, which was enacted in 2020 to help eligible communities address the economic impacts of a local electric generating plant's closure.

Section 1. **Definitions.** Modifies the definition of "eligible community" for the purposes of the grant program to include a community that hosts an electric generating plant whose current operating license will expire within 15 years of the effective date of the section.

Section 2. **Grant awards; limitations.** Eliminates the requirement that grants be awarded through a competitive process. Clarifies that an eligible community may receive a grant award of up to \$1,000,000 per calendar year. Allows the commissioner of employment and economic development to accept grant applications on an ongoing or rolling basis.

Section 3. **Eligible expenditures.** Allows the commissioner to transfer a portion of the allowable administrative expenses for the community energy transition grant program to the Environmental Quality Board to assist communities with regulatory coordination and technical assistance. Clarifies the purposes for which grant funds awarded to a community may be used.

Section 4. **Appropriation; community energy transition grants.** Appropriates \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the community energy transition grant program.