

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1704

H. P. 1593

Office of the Clerk of the House

The Committee on Public Utilities suggested. Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

Cosponsor: Mr. Garsoe of Cumberland.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk of the House

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY

AN ACT to Clarify the Statutes Relating to Natural Gas Pipeline Companies.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 35 MRSA § 15, sub-§ 10 is amended to read:

10. Natural gas pipeline company. “Natural gas pipeline company” includes every corporation or person, their lessees, trustees, receivers or trustees appointed by any court whatsoever, owning or operating for compensation within this State any pipeline, including pumping stations, storage depots and other facilities, for the transportation, distribution or sale of natural gas, or every person or corporation which has applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity or to the Public Utilities Commission for a certificate of authorization to operate a natural gas pipeline.

Sec. 2. 35 MRSA § 2531-A is enacted to read:

§ 2531-A. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Corporation. “Corporation” includes any corporation, partnership, association, business trust, organized group of persons, whether incorporated or

not, and municipal and quasimunicipal corporations.

2. **Natural gas pipeline company.** "Natural gas pipeline company" includes every corporation or person, their lessees, trustees, receivers or trustees appointed by any court whatsoever, owning or operating for compensation within this State any pipeline, including pumping stations, storage depots and other facilities, for the transportation, distribution or sale of natural gas, or every person or corporation which has applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity or to the Public Utilities Commission for a certificate of authorization to operate a natural gas pipeline.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill is intended to clarify the definition of natural gas pipeline company. Under the present statute, a natural gas pipeline company is defined as a corporation or person "owning or operating for compensation" within Maine any pipeline or appurtenant facilities. That definition is amended to define a natural gas pipeline company to include a person or corporation which has applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity or to the Public Utilities Commission for a certificate of authorization. This change will allow a natural gas pipeline company to apply for all necessary state approvals before it is actually owning or operating a pipeline or appurtenant facilities.

This bill also clarifies the definition of corporation as it presently appears in Title 35, chapter 181. This change would bring any legal entity or person within the same statutory regulation governing a corporation which is a natural gas pipeline company.