

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/28/25 Majority (Filing No. H-321)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 965, L.D. 1473, "An Act to Require Utilities to Monitor Meters for Natural Gas Leaks"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Require Gas Utilities to Assess for Natural Gas Leaks and to Require Reporting of Gas Leak Information'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRS §4713 is enacted to read:

§4713. Assessment and report of natural gas leaks

1. Gas utilities to assess for natural gas leaks. A gas utility shall assess its natural gas system for natural gas leaks, including every natural gas main and meter under its jurisdiction, as frequently as may be required by the commission by rule, but no less frequently than every 3 years.

2. Gas utility; reporting. Each gas utility shall provide reports to the commission at a frequency as established by the commission by rule regarding the number of natural gas leaks identified by the gas utility and the actions taken by the gas utility to address the natural gas leaks. The reports must protect individually identifiable customer information by omitting customer names and addresses, except that the reports must include street location information for the identified natural gas leaks. The commission shall post the reports received from gas utilities in accordance with this subsection on the commission's publicly accessible website.

3. Commission; reporting. No later than April 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the commission shall provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utility matters. The report must list each gas utility providing service in the State and the number of natural gas leaks identified by the gas utility in the prior calendar year by street location and must describe any action taken by the gas utility to address the natural gas leaks. The report must protect individually identifiable customer

information by omitting customer names and addresses. The commission shall post the reports required by this subsection on the commission's publicly accessible website.

4. Compliance. The commission shall periodically assess gas utility compliance with the requirements of subsections 1 and 2 at a frequency determined by the commission.

5. Rules. The commission may adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It requires a gas utility to assess its natural gas system, including every natural gas main and meter under its jurisdiction, as frequently as may be required by the Public Utilities Commission by rule, but no less frequently than every 3 years. It requires gas utilities to provide reports to the commission at a frequency as established by the commission by rule, regarding the number of natural gas leaks identified by the gas utility, the street location for the natural gas leaks and the actions taken by the gas utility to address the natural gas leaks. It also requires the commission to file an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utility matters regarding natural gas leaks reported by gas utilities and to include natural gas leak reports on its publicly accessible website. The commission is required to periodically assess gas utility compliance with the assessment and reporting requirements.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



Approved: 05/19/25 **LRL**

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1473

LR 2258(02)

An Act to Require Utilities to Monitor Meters for Natural Gas Leaks

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

A(H-321)

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Public Utilities Commission to implement the provisions of this bill are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.