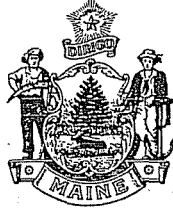


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 968

H.P. 670

House of Representatives, March 10, 2009

An Act Regarding New Utility Line Extension Construction

Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLETCHER of Winslow.
Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and
Representatives: CRAFTS of Lisbon, DOSTIE of Sabattus, FITTS of Pittsfield, HANLEY of
Gardiner, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senators: PLOWMAN of Penobscot, SIMPSON of
Androscoggin, SULLIVAN of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §315** is enacted to read:

3 **§315. Transmission and distribution utility line extension construction**

4 **1. Definition.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, "line"
5 has the same meaning as in section 314, subsection 1, paragraph A.

6 **2. Standards for estimating the cost of new line extension construction.** The
7 commission shall establish standards by rule for estimating the cost of construction of a
8 new line extension by a transmission and distribution utility. The rules must require that
9 a transmission and distribution utility provide a detailed quote that includes all costs to
10 each residential, commercial or industrial customer seeking the construction of a new line
11 extension. The detailed quote must contain estimated costs for each individual project
12 based on actual conditions. A transmission and distribution utility may not use average,
13 per-unit costs based on the length of the new line extension or number of poles.

14 **3. Rules.** Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as
15 defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to establish standards by rule for
18 estimating the cost of construction of a new line extension by a transmission and
19 distribution utility. The rules must require that a transmission and distribution utility
20 provide a detailed quote that includes all costs to each residential, commercial or
21 industrial customer seeking the construction of a new line extension, rather than relying
22 on per-unit average costs.