

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 194

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Date: 4/26/23

(Filing No. S-50)

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

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STATE OF MAINE

6

SENATE

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131ST LEGISLATURE

8

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

9

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “^A” to S.P. 100, L.D. 194, “An Act to Update and Clarify the Public Utilities Commission's Reporting Requirements”

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Amend the bill by inserting before section 1 the following:

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'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2001, c. 137, §1, is further amended to read:

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3. Regional issues. The commission's efforts undertaken in accordance with its authority under this Title to promote and protect consumer interests through participation in and presentations before regional entities and federal agencies with jurisdiction over regional marketplaces that affect the State's consumers, including, but not limited to, the efforts described in section 1911. The commission must provide an assessment of staffing requirements to undertake these responsibilities;'

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Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

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'Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2021, c. 236, §1, is further amended to read:

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6. Significant developments. Any significant developments in the utility sectors or other areas of commission oversight; including, but not limited to, the developments described in the following provisions:

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A. Section 3195, subsection 5; and

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B. Section 4706, subsection 9;'

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Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

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'Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 122, §11, is amended to read:

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7. Other. All other subjects that the commission is required to include in the annual report pursuant to law, including, but not limited to, the following provisions:

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A. Title 25, section 2927, subsection 5;

- 1 B. Section 3144, subsection 5;
- 2 C. Section 3214, subsection 6;
- 3 D. Section 3217, subsection 4;
- 4 E. Section 4706-B, subsection 4; and
- 5 F. Section 6102-A, subsection 2.'

6 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

7 '**Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §1911**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 445, §7, is further amended
8 to read:

9 **§1911. Reports**

10 The commission shall include in its annual report under section 120, subsection 3 a
11 description of its efforts to pursue, in appropriate regional and federal forums, market and
12 rule changes that will reduce the basis differential for natural gas coming into New England
13 ~~and data and analysis regarding leak emissions of greenhouse gases from liquefied natural~~
14 ~~gas storage that has been contracted for through a physical energy storage contract.'~~

15 Amend the bill by inserting after section 4 the following:

16 '**Sec. 5. 35-A MRSA §3210-C, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 476, §2, is
17 further amended by amending the 6th blocked paragraph to read:

18 By January 1st of each year, the commission shall submit a report to the joint standing
19 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters on the
20 procurement of transmission capacity, capacity resources, energy and renewable energy
21 credits in the preceding 12 months under this subsection, ~~the Community-based Renewable~~
22 ~~Energy Act~~ and deep-water offshore wind energy pilot projects under Public Law 2009,
23 chapter 615, Part A, section 6, as amended by Public Law 2013, chapter 369, Part H,
24 sections 1 and 2 and chapter 378, sections 4 to 6. The report must contain information,
25 including, but not limited to, the number of requests for proposals by the commission for
26 long-term contracts, the number of responses to requests for proposals pursuant to which a
27 contract has been finalized, the number of executed term sheets or contracts resulting from
28 the requests for proposals, the commission's initial estimates of ratepayer costs or savings
29 associated with any approved term sheet, actual ratepayer costs or savings for the previous
30 year associated with any procurement, the total ratepayer costs or savings at the time of the
31 report and the megawatt-hours, renewable energy credits or capacity produced or procured
32 through contracts. The report must include actual ratepayer costs or savings for the previous
33 year associated with any contract executed under the Community-based Renewable Energy
34 Act. The report must also include a plan for the succeeding 12 months pertaining to the
35 procurement of capacity resources, energy and renewable energy credits, including dates
36 for requests for proposals, and types of resources to be procured.'

37 Amend the bill by inserting after section 5 the following:

38 '**Sec. 6. 35-A MRSA §3607**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 329, Pt. A, §4, is repealed.'

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

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SUMMARY

This amendment removes the section of the bill that would have repealed the reporting requirement related to the basis differential for natural gas and physical energy storage contracts and instead amends that section to remove the required report by the Public Utilities Commission on data and analysis regarding leak emissions of greenhouse gases from liquefied natural gas storage that has been contracted for through a physical energy storage contract. It also adds a cross-reference to that section in the annual reporting requirements for the commission.

The amendment amends the bill to remove the references to certain information required to be in the commission's annual report from a consolidated category to a category of significant developments in the utility sectors.

The amendment also amends the reporting requirement related to the execution of long-term contracts under the Community-based Renewable Energy Act to require the commission to only report on the actual ratepayer costs or savings for the previous year for contracts executed under the Act. It also removes the tracking and reporting requirements under the Community-based Renewable Energy Act.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 194

LR 454(02)

An Act to Update and Clarify the Public Utilities Commission's Reporting Requirements

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-S)
Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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.