

4504

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

April 5, 2013

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Introduced by Sen. LATIMER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Energy and Telecommunications

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to requiring the commission to conduct annual hearings regarding certain transmission and distribution companies

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. The public service law is amended by adding a new section  
2     10-a to read as follows:  
3     S 10-A. HEARINGS. 1. THE COMMISSION, NOT LESS THAN ONCE ANNUALLY,  
4     SHALL CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS WITHIN THE  
5     FOLLOWING TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES' RESPECTIVE SERVICE  
6     TERRITORIES:  
7     A. CONSOLIDATED EDISON: NEW YORK COUNTY, KINGS COUNTY, QUEENS COUNTY,  
8     RICHMOND COUNTY, BRONX COUNTY AND WESTCHESTER COUNTY. THE COMMISSION  
9     SHALL CONDUCT AT LEAST ONE HEARING ANNUALLY IN EACH OF THE COUNTIES.  
10    B. ORANGE AND ROCKLAND UTILITIES: ORANGE COUNTY AND ROCKLAND COUNTY.  
11    THE COMMISSION HEARING SHALL ALTERNATE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTIES EVERY  
12    OTHER YEAR.  
13    C. CENTRAL HUDSON GAS AND ELECTRIC: ULSTER COUNTY AND DUTCHESS COUNTY.  
14    THE COMMISSION HEARING SHALL ALTERNATE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTIES EVERY  
15    OTHER YEAR.  
16    D. NIAGARA MOHAWK D/B/A NATIONAL GRID: ALBANY COUNTY, ONONDAGA COUNTY  
17    AND ERIE COUNTY. THE COMMISSION SHALL CONDUCT AT LEAST ONE HEARING ANNU-  
18    ALLY IN EACH OF THE COUNTIES.  
19    E. NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC AND GAS: BROOME COUNTY AND PUTNAM COUNTY.  
20    THE COMMISSION HEARING SHALL ALTERNATE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTIES EVERY  
21    OTHER YEAR.  
22    F. ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC: MONROE COUNTY.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD09546-03-3

1 2. THE CHAIRMAN OR CHAIRWOMAN AND A MAJORITY OF THE DULY APPOINTED  
2 COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE PRESENT AT THE HEARINGS REQUIRED BY SUBDIVISION  
3 ONE OF THIS SECTION AND SHALL SOLICIT PUBLIC COMMENT FROM RESIDENTIAL  
4 AND COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS REGARDING A COMPANY'S PERFORMANCE, INCLUDING  
5 BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

6 A. THE QUALITY OF GAS, ELECTRIC AND STEAM SERVICE;

7 B. THE IMPACT OF ANY COMMISSION DECISIONS IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR REGARD-  
8 ING RATES FOR SERVICE OR OTHER DECISIONS AFFECTING SERVICE;

9 C. THE ADMINISTRATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES BY  
10 THE UTILITY;

11 D. COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS BETWEEN A COMPANY AND CUSTOMERS IN ARREARS  
12 ON UTILITY CHARGES REGARDING THE POTENTIAL FOR TERMINATION OF SERVICE;

13 E. SERVICE RESTORATION PERFORMANCE AND CUSTOMER COMMUNICATION DURING  
14 ANY OUTAGES OCCURRING IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR; AND

15 F. ANY ADDITIONAL TOPICS OR INFORMATION THE COMMISSION DEEMS NECES-  
16 SARY.

17 S 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2014.