

STATE OF NEW YORK

129--A

Cal. No. 3

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. PAULIN, DINOWITZ, GALEF, OTIS, SEAWRIGHT, COLTON, VANEL, SAYEGH, ZINERMAN, GRIFFIN -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COOK, NIOU -- read once and referred to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions -- ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place on the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to filing gas safety reports

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 66-s to read as follows:

§ 66-s. Gas safety reports. 1. On or before March fifteenth of each year, each gas corporation shall file with the department a gas safety report. The department shall review the reports to monitor each gas corporation's pipeline replacement projects and all other activities related to providing safe and reliable gas service in order to determine whether the projects or activities are being carried out in a manner consistent with this chapter, the commission's rules, regulations and orders, and any practice the department has deemed necessary for the provision of safe and reliable service, and to track how each gas corporation is spending any funds allocated for pipeline replacement projects and all other activities related to providing safe and reliable gas service.

2. The gas safety report provided for in subdivision one of this section shall include a thorough description and explanation of the strategic planning and decision-making methodology used to determine and prioritize pipeline replacement projects, a description of the corporation's operation and maintenance activities related to gas safety, a description of the corporation's inspections of its intrastate transmission and distribution lines, and any other information the department

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

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1 may require. If there has been no substantial change in a gas corpo-
2 ration's safety report since the gas safety report most recently filed
3 with the department, the corporation, with consent of the department,
4 may file an updated version of such report.

5 2-a. A gas corporation shall also include with its gas safety report a
6 list of pipeline replacement projects completed by a gas corporation
7 within the last year; such list shall indicate which projects were
8 completed with a gas corporation's own employees and which were
9 completed by contractors. The commission may also order a gas corpo-
10 ration to submit an independent cost benefit analysis which examines the
11 gas corporation's use of its own employees and its use of contractors to
12 complete pipeline replacement projects.

13 3. If the department determines that there is a deficiency in a gas
14 corporation's prioritization or administration of its pipeline replace-
15 ment projects or operation and maintenance activities related to gas
16 safety, the department shall notify the commission at the next scheduled
17 public session and shall provide a brief description of the facts and
18 nature of the deficiency. The commission may order reasonable improve-
19 ments that will best promote the public interest, preserve the public
20 health and protect those using gas pursuant to those powers provided to
21 the commission as provided in this chapter, including but not limited to
22 those in section sixty-six of this article.

23 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.