

3241

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

January 31, 2013

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- 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 New York state voltage regulation pilot program

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 66-n to read as follows:

3 S 66-N. VOLTAGE REGULATION PILOT PROGRAM. 1. THE COMMISSION SHALL
4 ESTABLISH A NEW YORK STATE PILOT PROGRAM PROMOTING ENERGY CONSERVATION
5 THROUGH VOLTAGE REGULATION AND THEREBY IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE
6 ELECTRIC GRID.

7 2. THE COMMISSION SHALL OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT
8 PROGRAM AND SHALL ISSUE AN ORDER OF THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZING CAPITAL
9 AND OPERATING COSTS OF QUALIFYING VOLTAGE REGULATION EQUIPMENT TO BE
10 RECOVERED IN EACH UTILITY'S RATE BASES AND TO EARN A REASONABLE RETURN
11 OVER A PERIOD TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION, PROVIDED THE CORPO-
12 RATION SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, PROVIDE THE COMMISSION WITH THE FOLLOWING:

13 (A) A DETAILED DESCRIPTION AND ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED
14 INVESTMENTS IN ITS SERVICE AREAS;

15 (B) AN ANALYSIS OF THE COSTS, BENEFITS AND RISKS OF THE PROPOSAL,
16 INCLUDING AN ANALYSIS OF THE COSTS, BENEFITS AND RATE IMPLICATIONS TO
17 THE UTILITY'S PARTICIPATING CUSTOMERS, TO THE UTILITY'S DEFAULT SERVICE
18 CUSTOMERS AND TO THE UTILITY'S DISTRIBUTION CUSTOMERS;

19 (C) A DESCRIPTION OF THE QUALIFIED VOLTAGE REGULATION EQUIPMENT AND
20 ITS SPECIFICATIONS, INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS, SOLICITATIONS, AND
21 PROCUREMENTS THE UTILITY HAS IMPLEMENTED OR INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT;

22 (D) A SHOWING THAT THE UTILITY HAS MADE REASONABLE EFFORTS TO INVOLVE
23 NEW YORK STATE-BASED BUSINESSES, AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS
24 ENTERPRISES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED TEN OF THE EXECUTIVE

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

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1 LAW, IN THE MANUFACTURE OR SUPPLY OF QUALIFIED VOLTAGE REGULATION EQUIP-
2 MENT; AND

3 (E) OPERATE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ANY STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS ESTAB-
4 LISHED BY THE COMMISSION IN CONSULTATION WITH THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY
5 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

6 3. QUALIFIED VOLTAGE REGULATION EQUIPMENT SHALL BE SYNONYMOUS WITH
7 QUALIFIED VOLTAGE REGULATION DEVICE, AND SHALL MEAN VOLTAGE REGULATION
8 TECHNOLOGIES WHICH REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION, IMPROVE GRID EFFICIENCY,
9 RAISE OR LOWER VOLTAGE DYNAMICALLY AND ARE NINETY-NINE PERCENT OR MORE
10 EFFICIENT ACROSS A MINIMUM OF NINETY PERCENT OF THE ELECTRIC LOAD CURVE.

11 S 2. The public service commission, in consultation with the New York
12 State Energy Research and Development Authority, shall provide an annual
13 report on or before the first day of June to the governor, the temporary
14 president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the minority lead-
15 er of the senate, and the minority leader of the assembly reporting the
16 progress of their efforts and the effects of the program on the environ-
17 ment and public. Such report shall identify: (i) each utility that has
18 elected to install qualified voltage regulation equipment, the capital
19 and operating costs of which shall be recovered in the utility's rate
20 base; (ii) the amount of savings, if any, generated by the use of such
21 qualified voltage regulation devices; (iii) any improvements to such
22 utility's reliability measures and finances; and (iv) the number of such
23 qualified voltage regulation devices that are installed and in use by
24 customers in each utility's service areas.

25 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that
26 not later than the ninetieth day after this act shall have become a law,
27 the commission shall commence a rulemaking proceeding to prescribe the
28 standards and requirements with which qualified voltage regulation
29 equipment must comply in order to be installed by utilities in certain
30 service areas.