AN ACT to amend the energy law, in relation to directing the state energy planning board to conduct a study of natural gas reliability

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

1 Section 1. Section 6-108 of the energy law is amended by adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:

4. On or before January first, two thousand eighteen, the board shall undertake to study the overall reliability of the state's supply of natural gas. The board shall contract with an independent and competitively selected contractor with experience in natural gas to undertake such study. The board shall prepare a report on such study's findings and legislative recommendations. The board shall transmit such report along with the reliability study to the governor, the speaker of the assembly, the temporary president of the senate, the chair of the assembly energy committee and the chair of the senate energy and telecommunications committee. The foregoing study shall include an assessment of the following:

(a) the need for additional transmission of natural gas in the state and to states in New England;
(b) the integrity and impacts of new natural gas infrastructure as it relates to the environment;
(c) the consequences to existing natural gas customers in the state of constraints in the natural gas delivery system;
(d) the economic demand for additional natural gas from residential, commercial, manufacturing and industrial sectors in the state; and
(e) status of and future opportunities for the implementation of natural gas expansion under public service commission proceedings and the state energy plan.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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