STATE OF NEW YORK

8907

IN SENATE

August 12, 2020

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to mandating budget expenditures by gas and electric corporations to improve power outage response and to stormproof power lines

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 73 to read as follows:

§ 73. Mandatory budget expenditures to improve power outage response and to stormproof power lines. 1. For the year two thousand twenty-one and every year thereafter, every gas corporation and electric corporation in this state shall dedicate and use forty percent of its operating budget for the purpose of improving such corporation's response to power outages and storm related damage. Such budget expenditures shall be used specifically for: (a) infrastructure hardening; (b) storm resilience; (c) improving response time to power outages and storm related damage, and the effectiveness of such response; (d) removing power lines from trees; and (e) removing trees and tree limbs in the vicinity of power lines. The objective of such budget expenditures shall be to stormproof power lines throughout the state to reduce the number of power outages and storm related damage in this state.

2. On or before April first, two thousand twenty-one and on or before every July first, October first, January first and April first, thereafter, every gas corporation and electric corporation in this state shall file a report with the commission setting forth documentation, as determined by the commissioner, necessary to substantiate its compliance with the provisions of subdivision one of this section.

3. Any application by a gas corporation or electric corporation submitted to the commission to increase any rate charged to its customers shall include documentation, as determined by the commissioner, necessary to substantiate its compliance with the provisions of subdivision one of this section.

§ 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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