STATE OF NEW YORK

10534--A

IN ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. BURDICK -- read once and referred to the Committee on Energy -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to establishing a standardized rate application template

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

Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. The legislature finds that rate increase applications filed by gas and electric utilities before the New York state public service commission vary widely in format, and explanatory detail. This lack of uniformity impedes meaningful review by regulators, intervenors, and the public, and makes comparison across rate cases difficult.

The legislature therefore declares that it is in the public interest to require standardized, transparent, and clearly explained rate increase filings in order to promote accountability, comparability, and informed decision making.

§ 2. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 27-a to read as follows:

§ 27-a. Standardized utility rate case filings. 1. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Rate filing" means any petition, filing, or submission seeking approval of a major change in rates and charges as defined in subdivision twelve of section sixty-six of this chapter.

(b) "Utility" means any electric, gas, or steam corporation subject to rate regulation pursuant to this chapter.

2. Standardized rate application template. (a) The commission shall, by rule establish a standardized rate application template to be used by all utilities making a rate filing.

(b) The standardized template shall require uniform presentation of information, including, but not limited to:

(i) an executive summary of the proposed rate increase and total revenue request;

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

LBD15085-04-6

(ii) the projected bill impacts by customer class;
(iii) a detailed breakdown of operating expenses, capital expenditures, and rate base components;
(iv) historical and forecasted test year data presented in a consistent format;
(v) a side-by-side comparison of current rates and proposed rates; and
(vi) any additional schedules or exhibits the commission deems necessary for complete review.
(c) All rate filings shall be submitted using the standardized template, except those initiated pursuant to section seventy-one or seventy-two of this chapter.
3. Explanation of calculations and assumptions. (a) Each rate filing made by a utility shall include a clear and comprehensive explanation of all calculations used for key elements of the rate filing including but not limited to:
(i) revenue requirement calculations;
(ii) cost of capital calculations;
(iii) depreciation, amortization, and plant-in-service calculations;
(iv) allocation of costs among customer classes; and
(v) forecasting assumptions used in test year analyses.
(b) Comprehensive explanations shall include:
(i) identification of all formulas and mathematical methodologies employed;
(ii) the source of all data inputs;
(iii) all material assumptions underlying forecasts and projections; and
(iv) an explanation of any changes from methodologies or assumptions used in the utility's prior rate case.
(c) Supporting schedules and workpapers shall be provided in a format, prescribed by the commission, that allows department staff, intervenors, and the public to replicate and verify the calculations.
4. Completeness review and enforcement. (a) The commission may determine that a rate filing is incomplete if it fails to comply with the standardized template or methodology requirements established pursuant to this section.
(b) The commission may reject, suspend, or require amendment of any noncompliant filing until such deficiencies are cured.
5. Public availability. All rate filings, including explanatory materials and calculation workpapers, shall be made publicly available on the department's website, subject to provisions governing confidential or proprietary information.
6. Rulemaking authority. The commission is authorized to promulgate rules and issue orders necessary to implement and enforce the provisions of this section.

§ 3. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a law and shall apply to all rate applications filed on or after such date.