

STATE OF NEW YORK

10135

IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. BARRETT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Energy

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to directing the public service commission to develop, publish, and update a guidebook on the gas and electric ratemaking process

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

Section 1. Section 66 of the public service law is amended by adding a new subdivision 33 to read as follows:

33. Develop, publish, and update from time to time, a guidebook on the gas and electric ratemaking process. Such guidebook shall be written in plain language, in a manner easily understood by the general public, and shall be made available in a readily accessible location on the department's website and be included or referenced in any communications relating to the commencement of, or requesting public comment on, a matter affecting any rate or charge that requires a hearing pursuant to this chapter. Such guidebook shall:

(a) contain a distinct section to promote public understanding and participation in the gas and electric ratemaking process, which shall include, at a minimum:

(i) a basic overview of the ratemaking process, including any commission-approved alternative procedures, regulatory or statutory timelines, and a glossary of relevant terms;

(ii) an overview of the role of the public in the ratemaking process, how to comment or otherwise participate, and how the commission reviews and incorporates public comments;

(iii) a summary of the legal requirements, components, and goals of the ratemaking process and the roles of the utility corporation, the commissioners, department staff, administrative judges, and intervenors; and

(iv) an explanation of how to access ratemaking related documentation and rate case specific summaries and memoranda; and

(b) contain a distinct section to facilitate the formal intervention and participation of interested or affected parties in the gas and elec-

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

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tric ratemaking process, which, in addition to any relevant information required pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision, shall include, at a minimum:

(i) a detailed and practical description of the ratemaking process, including any commission-approved alternative procedures, the process of intervening and becoming a formal party, and the various ways in which parties may participate;

(ii) a summary of the statutory and regulatory rights and responsibilities of parties and an overview of the role and powers of administrative judges;

(iii) an explanation of the principal procedural components of the ratemaking process, such as testimony, motions, interrogatories, discovery, evidence, and hearings;

(iv) a summary of any commission-approved settlement guidelines, the role of parties in settlement, and an explanation of the standards by which the commission reviews and modifies final proposals prior to adoption; and

(v) templates and examples of relevant documents that may be required or submitted by intervening parties.

§ 2. The guidebook required by this act shall be published, and made available on the department of public service's website, no later than 120 days after this act shall have become a law.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.