STATE OF NEW YORK

9075

IN SENATE

January 29, 2026

Introduced by Sen. GONZALEZ -- 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 requiring gas corporations to file maps with the public service commission detailing the location of current and planned gas distribution line replacement, repair, renewal and retirement projects

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 77-a to read as follows:

§ 77-a. Mapping and decommissioning leak-prone gas infrastructure. 1. Legislative intent. It is the intent of the legislature to support long-term emissions reductions by facilitating the mapping and decommissioning of leak-prone gas pipes. The repair and replacement of aging and leak-prone pipes by gas corporations will result in a burgeoning, unaffordable cost to ratepayers over the next several decades and does not serve the emissions reductions goals of the state. Avoiding investments in new, dangerous, unhealthy, unaffordable, and long-lived gas infrastructure where alternative renewable sources of energy may instead be installed will result in savings to gas ratepayers, decreased costly energy demand at peak periods, increased local resilience, reduced risk to customers and the environment, reduced imports of resources from outside New York state, and reduced risk to shareholders for cost recovery on stranded assets. A long-term planning process is necessary to evaluate zero-emission alternatives that could help avoid new capital investment in the gas system, which may become stranded, and to reduce upward pressure on gas rates. Cost-effective, affordable, zero-emission alternatives to pipeline and other gas infrastructure replacement and renewal projects could reduce gas system costs, ease energy load at periods of high demand, improve system resiliency, and further New York's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve local and regional air quality.

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

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2. (a) Within one year of the effective date of this section and annually thereafter, each gas corporation shall file with the commission a map detailing the location of all current and planned or foreseeable gas distribution line replacement, repair, renewal and retirement projects. Such map shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) the city, county, and census tract boundaries of such gas corporation's service area;

(ii) the locations of disadvantaged communities, as defined in section 75-0101 of the environmental conservation law, overlapping with such service area or line replacement projects;

(iii) the location of all terminal branches and radial ends of such gas corporation's systems, indicating which are the easiest to decommission without affecting the functioning of the system or the service delivered to downstream customers;

(iv) the gas corporation's current schedule for planned replacement, repair, renewal and retirement of distribution lines; and

(v) any other information required by the commission for purposes of integrated resource planning procedures.

(b) Maps filed pursuant to this subdivision shall include metadata about when the map was created, last updated, for what purpose, and by whom. The commission shall publish such maps and any schedules filed with such maps on the commission's website and such maps, schedules, and associated documents, including appendices, exhibits, and cover letters, shall be deemed public record for the purposes of article six of the public officers law. At minimum, the commission shall publish unredacted, legible maps showing the neighborhoods downstream of the gas infrastructure in question at a granularity of two hundred fifty foot increments.

3. Maps filed pursuant to subdivision two of this section shall be available to communities, municipalities, and state agencies in order to enable electrification, decarbonization, and strategic demand reductions to be coordinated with planned decommissioning or other integrated resource planning initiatives, including state and local economic development efforts, planned development, housing production, or other agricultural, commercial and industrial development.

4. (a) The commission, after providing for and hearing public comment, shall designate all relevant neighborhoods as neighborhood priority decarbonization zones. In making such designations, the commission shall consider, without limitation: (i) the location of disadvantaged communities, as defined in section 75-0101 of the environmental conservation law; (ii) the location of line replacement, repair, renewal, and retirement projects identified by gas corporations pursuant to subdivision two of this section; (iii) existing sources of pollution in such zone; (iv) estimated greenhouse gas emissions associated with such line replacement projects; (v) asthma rates and other chronic respiratory conditions among children and adults in such zones; (vi) and the location of existing or planned private, municipal, and regulated investor-owned utility, or other thermal energy network projects, as provided for by section sixty-six-t of this article; (vii) planned load growth as a result of any and all municipal land use changes and agricultural, transportation, commercial, housing, or industrial development; and (viii) the presence and location of any and all thermal energy resources including waste heat proximal to the zone.

(b) The goal of the commission in designating neighborhood priority decarbonization zones pursuant to this subdivision shall be to identify areas in each gas corporation's service area in which planned line

replacement, repair, renewal and retirement projects may feasibly be avoided. The commission shall rank the zones by urgency and the remaining length of time before the gas infrastructure in question is scheduled for retirement, decommissioning, replacement, renewal, repair, upgrade, or other maintenance activity which substantially renews local non-gas infrastructure.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.