

2017 -- S 0553

LC001359

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Introduced By: Senator Marc A. Cote

Date Introduced: March 15, 2017

Referred To: Senate Commerce

(DPUC)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 39-1-27.8 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-1 entitled "Public  
2 Utilities Commission" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **39-1-27.8. Supply procurement portfolio.**

4 Each electric distribution company shall submit a proposed supply procurement plan or  
5 plans to the commission not later than March 1, 2009, and each March 1, thereafter through  
6 March 1, ~~2018~~ 2028. The supply procurement plan or plans shall be consistent with the purposes  
7 of least-cost procurement and shall, as appropriate, take into account plans and orders with regard  
8 to system reliability and energy efficiency and conservation procurement. The supply  
9 procurement plan or plans will include the acquisition procedure, the pricing options being  
10 sought, and a proposed term of service for which standard offer service will be acquired. The  
11 term of service may be of various, staggered term lengths and acquisitions may occur from time  
12 to time and for more than one supplier for segments of standard offer load over different terms, if  
13 appropriate. There also may be separate procurement plans for residential and non-residential  
14 classes or separate plans among non-residential classes. All the components of the procurement  
15 plans, shall be subject to commission review and approval. Once a procurement plan is approved  
16 by the commission, the electric distribution company shall be authorized to acquire standard offer  
17 service supply consistent with the approved procurement plan and recover its costs incurred from  
18 providing standard offer service pursuant to the approved procurement plan. The commission  
19 may periodically review the procurement plan to determine whether it should be prospectively

1 modified due to changed market conditions. The commission shall have the authority and  
2 discretion to establish eligibility criteria by rate class, and approve special tariff conditions and  
3 rates proposed by the electric distribution company that the commission finds are in the public  
4 interest, including without limitation: (1) short and long term optional service at different rates;  
5 (2) term commitments or notice provisions before individual customers leave standard offer  
6 service; (3) standard offer service rates for residential or any other special class of customers that  
7 are different than the rates for other standard offer customers; (4) time of use commodity pricing  
8 for specified classes of customers, ~~except residential customers; provided, however, that the~~  
9 ~~commission may establish pilot programs for time of use commodity pricing for residential~~  
10 ~~customers~~; and/or (5) standard offer service rates that are designed to encourage any class of  
11 customers to purchase supply directly from the market.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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1           This act would extend to March 1, 2028, the electric distribution company requirement to  
2 file their supply procurement plan with the public utility commission and removes the restrictions  
3 on time of use rates for residential customers.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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