Unofficial Copy C5 2003 Regular Session 3lr1592 CF 3lr1591

By: Delegate Edwards Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2003 Assigned to: Economic Matters				
Committee Report: Favorable with amendments House action: Adopted Read second time: March 4, 2003				
	CHAPTER			
1	AN ACT concerning			
2	Small Rural Electric Cooperatives - Reporting, Compliance, and Exemption			
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10				
13 14 15 16	Section 2-110(c), 2-118, 6-205, 7-201, 7-203, and 7-301 Annotated Code of Maryland (1998 Volume and 2002 Supplement)			
17 18 19	7 1			

Annotated Code of Maryland (1998 Volume and 2002 Supplement)

23 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

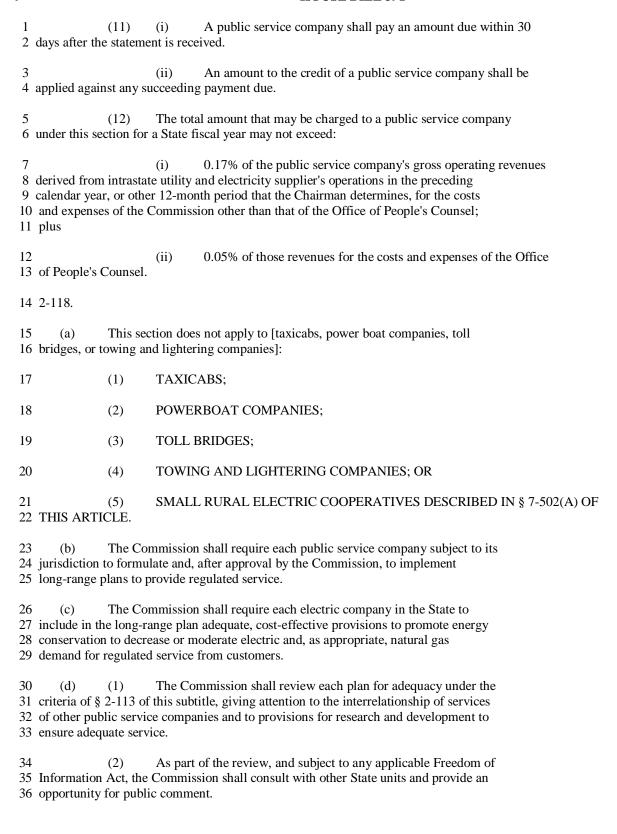
SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

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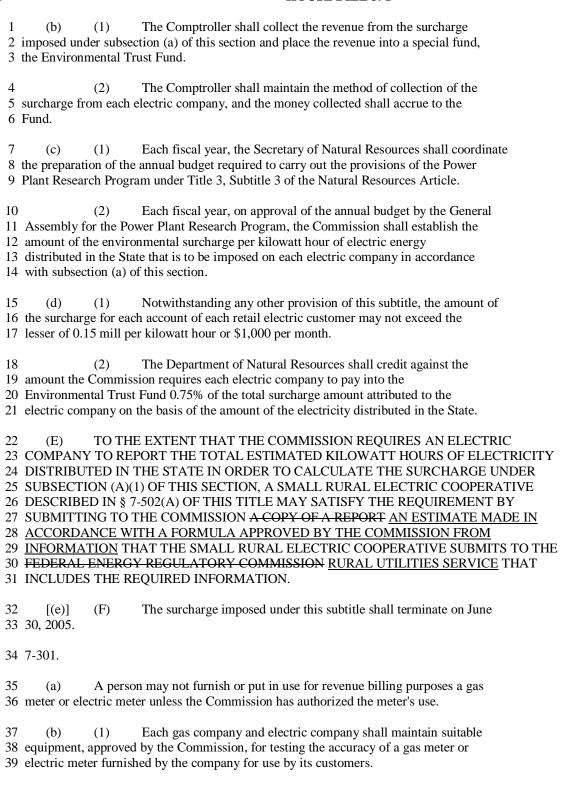
1 **Article - Public Utility Companies** 2 2-110. 3 (1) Before each State fiscal year, the Chairman of the Commission (c) (i) 4 shall estimate the Commission's total costs and expenses, including: 5 1. the compensation and expenses of the Commission, its 6 officers, agents, and personnel; the cost of retirement contributions, Social Security, 7 2. 8 health insurance, and other benefits required to be paid by the State for the personnel 9 of the Commission: 10 3. all other maintenance and operation expenses of the 11 Commission; and 12 4. all other direct and indirect costs of the Commission. 13 The estimate shall exclude the expenses associated with (ii) 14 services performed by the Commission for which the Commission is reimbursed under 15 this article. (iii) The estimate shall include, as provided by the Office of People's 16 17 Counsel: 18 1. the compensation and expenses of the Office of People's 19 Counsel, its officers, agents, and personnel; 20 the cost of retirement contributions, Social Security, 2. 21 health insurance, and other benefits required to be paid by the State for the personnel 22 of the Office of People's Counsel; 23 3. all other maintenance and operation expenses of the Office 24 of People's Counsel; and all other direct and indirect costs of the Office of People's 25 4. 26 Counsel. 27 Based on the estimate, the Chairman shall determine the amount to (2) 28 be paid by each public service company. 29 The Commission shall send a bill to each public service company on 30 or before May 1st of each year. 31 (4) (I) The bill shall equal the product of: 32 1. the estimated total costs and expenses of the Commission [(i)]33 and the Office of People's Counsel during the next fiscal year; multiplied by

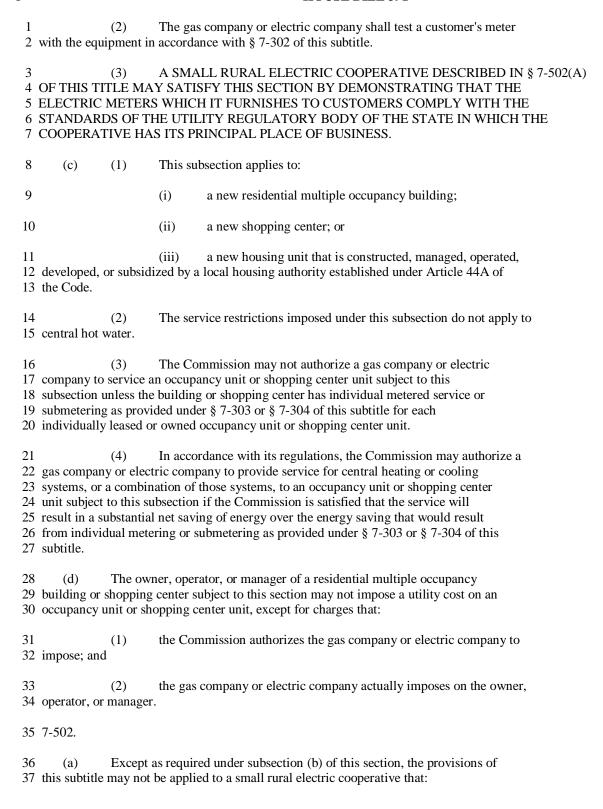
3 4 5	the preceding calenda to the total of the gro	ar year, or ss operati perations	2. the ratio of the gross operating revenues for the public intrastate utility and electricity supplier operations in other 12-month period as the Chairman determines, ng revenues derived from intrastate utility and for all public service companies that are billed under
9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	INTRASTATE UTII CALCULATE THE RURAL ELECTRIC SATISFY THE REC REPORT INCLUDI APPROVED BY TH ELECTRIC COOPE	JITY AND BILL UNDER COOPE OUIREMING THAT HE COMMERATIVE THE CO	TO THE EXTENT THAT THE COMMISSION REQUIRES AN REPORT THE GROSS OPERATING REVENUE DERIVED FROM DELECTRICITY SUPPLIER OPERATION IN ORDER TO NDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A SMALL RATIVE DESCRIBED IN § 7-502(A) OF THIS ARTICLE MAY ENT BY SUBMITTING TO THE COMMISSION A COPY OF A A ESTIMATE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH A FORMULA MISSION FROM INFORMATION THAT THE SMALL RURAL SUBMITS TO THE UTILITY REGULATORY BODY OF THE OPERATIVE HAS ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS RURAL
18	(5)	The mir	nimum bill for a public service company shall be \$10.
19	(6)	The pub	olic service company:
20		(i)	shall pay the bill on or before the next July 15th; or
21 22	October, January, an	(ii) d April.	may elect to make partial payments on the 15th days of July,
23 24	(7) than \$10.	A partia	l payment shall equal 25% of the bill and may not be less
		s of the C	any State fiscal year, the Chairman may change the estimate commission and the estimate of costs and expenses of the changed by the People's Counsel.
28 29	(9) bill to each public se	(i) ervice con	If the estimate is changed, the Commission shall send a revised apany that has elected to make partial payments.
30 31	payments for the fisc	(ii) cal year.	The change shall be apportioned equally against the remaining
34		ce of Peo _j	On or before September 15th of each year, the Chairman shall expenses of the Commission, and the actual costs and ple's Counsel, as provided by the People's Counsel for the
38	public service compa	any that is	After deducting the amounts recovered under §§ 2-111(a) and after October 15th, the Chairman shall send to any affected a statement that shows the amount due or the blic service company.



			The Commission shall require the revisions to a plan that the sappropriate unless the authority to review and approve a plan nother State unit by other law.		
4	6-205.				
5	(a)	(1)	This subsection does not apply to railroads.		
	(2) Each public service company shall file with the Commission an annual report containing information on its corporate structure, affiliations of its officers and directors, and debt holdings.				
11 12 13	by a public scalendar year	service co ar for whi	(I) Notwithstanding any specific reporting requirements in this sion may prescribe the contents of the annual report to be filed ompany whose gross annual revenues for the most recent ch data are available are less than 0.003% of the total gross I public service companies in the State during the same calendar		
17 18 19	SUBMITTI INFORMAT UTILITY R	NG TO T FION TH EGULA	(II) A SMALL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE DESCRIBED IN § ARTICLE MAY SATISFY THE REPORTING REQUIREMENT BY THE COMMISSION A COPY OF A REPORT INCLUDING THE REQUIRED THAT THE SMALL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE SUBMITS TO THE FORY BODY OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE COOPERATIVE HAS ITS OF BUSINESS RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE.		
21 22	(b) shall verify		sident, treasurer, or general manager of a public service company any's annual report under oath.		
23	(c)	The Cor	nmission may:		
24 25	that the Con	(1) nmission	require a public service company to submit reports and information reasonably desires;		
26 27	information	(2) ; and	prescribe the form, contents, and deadlines for the reports and		
28		(3)	require amendments or corrections to the reports within a set period.		
29	7-201.				
32		e associa	Annually, the Chairman of the Commission shall forward to the Resources a 10-year plan listing possible and proposed sites, ted transmission routes, for the construction of electric plants		
			(i) The Chairman shall delete from the 10-year plan any site that ral Resources identifies as unsuitable in accordance with the 304 of the Natural Resources Article.		

1 2	under subparagraph (i	(ii) i) of this	The Chairman may include a site deleted from a 10-year plan paragraph in a subsequent 10-year plan.
5 6	moderate overall electrompanies' promotion	ted effort trical gen n of energ	airman shall include information in the annual 10-year plan s by electric companies and the Commission to deration demand and peak demand through the electric gy conservation by customers and through the electric energy sources, including cogeneration.
10 11 12 13 14	SUBSECTION, A SI THIS TITLE MAY S A COPY OF A REPO ELECTRIC COOPE	ORT TH MALL R SATISFY ORT <u>THI</u> RATIVE	E EXTENT THAT THE COMMISSION REQUIRES AN ELECTRIC E INFORMATION DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS URAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE DESCRIBED IN § 7-502(A) OF THE REQUIREMENT BY SUBMITTING TO THE COMMISSION E POWER REQUIREMENT STUDY THAT THE SMALL RURAL SUBMITS TO THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY UDES THE REQUIRED INFORMATION RURAL UTILITIES
		ric compa	mmission shall evaluate the cost-effectiveness of the anies in energy conservation to reduce electrical demand ces to help meet electrical demand.
19	(2)	The eva	luation of investments shall include:
22	(i) the electric companies' promotion and conduct of a building audit and weatherization program, including low-interest or no-interest electric company financing for the installation of energy conservation materials and renewable energy devices;		
24		(ii)	utilization of renewable energy sources;
25 26	wastes; and	(iii)	promotion and utilization of electricity from cogeneration and
27		(iv)	widespread public promotion of energy conservation programs.
28	7-203.		
29	(a) (1)	The Co	mmission shall:
30 31	electricity distributed	(i) l to retail	impose an environmental surcharge per kilowatt hour of electric customers within the State; and
32 33	surcharge to its custo	(ii) omers' bil	authorize each electric company to add the full amount of the ls.
36		ne amour ved and c	extent that an electric company fails to collect the surcharge at uncollected shall be deemed a cost of power computed as such together with other allowable making.





1	(1)	has less than 10% of its distribution territory within the State;
2	(2)	maintains its principal place of business outside the State; and
3	(0)	is subject to, and conducts its operations within the State in
4	compliance with, the	laws of the state in which its principal place of business is
5	located.	

 $\,\,$ SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 7 $\,$ July 1, 2003.