

Subject Public Utilities Commission procedures

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Overview

House File 4560 strikes archaic language and provisions whose end dates have expired, and makes administrative changes to statutes governing the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's regulation of energy facilities.

Summary

Section	Description
1	[216.13] Commencing procedures before commission. Strikes archaic language and provides that proceedings can be brought to the commission via complaint or petition, and that the filer must provide notice to the affected utilities.
2	[216.16] Hearings before commission. Conforming language.
3	[216.161] Contested cases; notice. Amends the definition of "contested case" by referencing an existing statute (section 14.02, subd. 3).
4	[216.17] Notices and orders; filing; service. Subd. 3. Filings with commission; manner of filing. Strikes an outdated reference to 2008.
5	[216A.01] Department and commission; powers and duties. Strikes an archaic reference to the commission's jurisdiction and lists the chapters of law that describe its powers and duties.
6	[216A.03] Public Utilities Commission. Subd. 1. Members. Strikes an outdated reference to 1986.

Section	Description
7	[216A.03] Public Utilities Commission. Subd. 6. Record of proceedings. Strikes references to obsolete technologies and updates terminology.
8	[216A.05] Commission functions and powers. Subd. 2. Powers generally. Strikes archaic language and updates terminology.
9	[216B.027] Cooperative electric association stockholder rights. Subd. 7. Optional referendum. Strikes outdated reference to 1983.
10	[216B.06] Receiving different compensation. Strikes outdated reference to 1975.
11	[216B.098] Residential customer protections. Subd. 2. Budget billing plans. Strikes outdated reference to 2003.
12	[216B.16] Rate change; procedure; hearing. Subd. 19. Multiyear rate plan. Strikes outdated reference to 2012.
13	[216B.1611] Interconnection of on-site distributed generation. Subd. 3a. Project information. Strikes outdated reference to 2014.
14	[216B.2412] Decoupling of energy sales from revenues. Subd. 4. Decoupling plans. Authorizes a public utility to file a decoupling plan with the commission (current law speaks only to pilot programs), which the commission may approve, deny, or modify.
15	[216B.2422] Resource planning; renewable energy. Subd. 3. Environmental costs. Strikes outdated reference to 1994.
16 - 20	[216B.27] Rehearing; condition precedent to judicial review. Applies this section's procedural rules with respect to a request for rehearing a commission order to "reconsideration" of an order as well.
21	[216B.43] Hearing on complaint. Extends from 30 to 60 days the time after which a complaint has been filed with respect to a utility's exclusive right to serve customers in its service area that the commission must hold a hearing on the matter.

Section	Description
22	<p>[216B.62] Regulatory expenses.</p> <p>Subd. 3a. Supplemental staffing assessment. Appropriates to the commission assessments (up to \$800,000 annually) made to public utilities allowing the commission to hire supplemental staff to carry out its duties.</p>
23	<p>Repealer.</p> <p>Repeals the following statutes:</p> <p>216B.1681: Requires a study of wind curtailment payments to be submitted to the legislature by January 15, 2008.</p> <p>216B.1695: Authorizes a public utility to petition the commission prior to December 31, 2015, for an advance determination of prudence regarding expenditures made to comply with state or federal air quality standards.</p> <p>216B.2412, subd. 3: Authorizes the commission to allow a public utility to participate in pilot rate-decoupling program. Section 14 of the bill allows for non-pilot programs.</p>



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