

ASSEMBLY, No. 438

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GREGORY P. MCGUCKIN

District 10 (Ocean)

Assemblyman JOHN CATALANO

District 10 (Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires electric public utility to submit proposal to BPU detailing utility's plan to harden its electric distribution substations to protect against criminal attacks.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/3/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning electric public utility criminal attack prevention
2 plans and supplementing Title 48 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill):

9 “Board” means the Board of Public Utilities or its successor
10 agency.

11 “Electric distribution substation” means, with respect to an
12 electric public utility, an electric substation which takes electricity
13 from the transmission grid and converts it to a lower voltage for the
14 purpose of distribution to end-use customers in the State through
15 one or more distribution lines having a rating of less than 69
16 kilovolts, or a rating as the board determines to be at the
17 distribution level.

18 “Electric public utility” or “utility” means a public utility, as that
19 term is defined in R.S.48:2-13, that transmits and distributes
20 electricity to end users within this State.

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22 2. a. Within 180 days of the board’s promulgation of the rules
23 and regulations establishing electric distribution substation criminal
24 attack prevention standards pursuant to section 3 of
25 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
26 each electric public utility in the State having ownership or control
27 of an electric distribution substation shall submit a plan to the
28 board, for approval, detailing the utility’s plan to strengthen its
29 electric distribution substation infrastructure to protect against
30 criminal attacks.

31 b. Within 180 days of receipt of an electric public utility’s
32 submission of the plan pursuant to subsection a. of this section, the
33 board shall determine whether the plan is feasible and whether it
34 shall be implemented with or without recommendations. Upon a
35 determination that the plan is feasible and shall be implemented, the
36 board shall order the utility to implement and complete the plan
37 within one calendar year from the date of the order.

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39 3. Within 120 days of the effective date of
40 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
41 the board shall adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the
42 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
43 seq.), establishing electric distribution substation criminal attack
44 prevention standards, and any other rules and regulations as may be
45 necessary to effectuate the purposes of P.L. , c. (C.)
46 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

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48 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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This bill requires each electric public utility (utility) in the State having ownership or control of an electric distribution substation to submit a proposal to the Board of Public Utilities (board) for approval detailing the utility’s plan to harden its electric distribution substation to protect against criminal attacks. Within 180 days of receipt of a utility’s submission of the plan, the board is to determine whether the plan is feasible and whether the plan is to be implemented with or without recommendations. Upon a determination that the plan is feasible and is to be implemented, the board is to order the utility to implement and complete the plan within one calendar year from the date of the order.