220 ILCS 5/16-105.17

Statutes current with legislation through P.A. 103-585 of the 2024 Regular Session of the 103rd General Assembly.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated > Chapter 220 UTILITIES (§§ 5/1-101 — 99) > Public Utilities Act (Arts. I — 70) > Article XVI. Electric Service Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law of 1997 (§§ 5/16-101 — 16-135)

220 ILCS 5/16-105.17 Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan.

(a) The General Assembly finds that ensuring alignment of regulated utility operations, expenditures, and investments with public benefit goals, including safety, reliability, resiliency, affordability, equity, emissions reductions, and expansion of clean distributed energy resources, is critical to maximizing the benefits of the interconnected utility grid and cost-effective utility expenditures on the grid. It is the policy of the State to promote inclusive, comprehensive, transparent, cost-effective distribution system planning and disclosures processes that minimize long-term costs for Illinois customers and support the achievement of State renewable energy development and other clean energy, public health, and environmental policy goals. Utility distribution system expenditures, programs, investments, and policies must be evaluated in coordination with these goals. In particular, the General Assembly finds that:

(1) Investment in infrastructure to support and enable existing and new distributed energy resources creates significant economic development, environmental, and public health benefits in the State.

(2) Illinois' electricity distribution system must cost-effectively integrate renewable energy resources, including utility-scale renewable energy resources, community renewable generation, and distributed renewable energy resources, support beneficial electrification, including electric vehicle use and adoption, promote opportunities for third-party investment in nontraditional, grid-related technologies and resources such as batteries, solar photovoltaic panels, and smart thermostats, reduce energy usage generally and especially during times of greatest reliance on fossil fuels, and enhance customer engagement opportunities.

(3) Inclusive distribution system planning is an essential tool for the Commission, public utilities, and stakeholders to effectively coordinate environmental, consumer, reliability, and equity goals at fair and reasonable costs, and for ensuring transparent utility accountability for meeting those goals.

(4) Any planning process should advance Illinois energy policy goals while ensuring utility investments are cost-effective. Such a process should maximize the sharing of information, minimize overlap with existing filing requirements to ensure robust stakeholder participation, and recognize the responsibility of the utility to manage the grid in a safe, reliable manner.

(5) The General Assembly is concerned that, in the absence of a transparent, meaningful distribution system planning process, utility investments may not always serve customers' best interests, appropriately promote the expansion of clean distributed energy resources, and advance equity and environmental justice.

(6) The General Assembly is also encouraged by the opportunities presented by nontraditional solutions to utility, customer, and grid needs that may be more efficient and cost-effective, and less environmentally harmful than traditional solutions. Nontraditional solutions include distributed energy resources owned or implemented by customers and independent third parties, controllable load, beneficial electrification, or rate design that encourages efficient energy use.

(7) The General Assembly finds that Illinois utilities' current processes for planning their distribution system should be made more accessible and transparent to individuals and communities, and that more inclusive and accessible distribution system planning processes would be in the interests of all Illinois residents.

(8) The General Assembly finds it would be beneficial to require utilities to demonstrate how their spending promotes identified State clean energy goals, such as integrating renewable energy, empowering customers to make informed choices, supporting electric vehicles, beneficial electrification, and energy storage, achieving equity goals, enhancing resilience, and maintaining reliability.

The General Assembly therefore directs the utilities to implement distribution system planning as described in this Section in order to accelerate progress on Illinois clean energy and environmental goals and hold electric utilities publicly accountable for their performance.

(b) Unless otherwise specified, the terms used in this Section shall have the same meanings as defined in Sections 16-102 [220 ILCS 5/16-102] and 16-107.6 [220 ILCS 5/16-107.6]. As used in this Section:

"Demand response" means measures that decrease peak electricity demand or shift demand from peak to off-peak periods.

"Distributed energy resources" or "DER" means a wide range of technologies that are connected to the grid, including those that are located on the customer side of the customer's electric meter and can provide value to the distribution system, including, but not limited to, distributed generation, energy storage, electric vehicles, and demand response technologies.

"Environmental justice communities" means the definition of that term based on existing methodologies and findings, used and as may be updated by the Illinois Power Agency and its Program Administrator in the Illinois Solar for All Program.

(c) This Section applies to electric utilities serving more than 500,000 retail customers in the State.

(d) The Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan ("the Plan") shall be designed to:

(1) ensure coordination of the State's renewable energy goals, climate and environmental goals with the utility's distribution system investments, and programs and policies over a 5-year planning horizon to maximize the benefits of each while ensuring utility expenditures are cost-effective;

(2) optimize utilization of electricity grid assets and resources to minimize total system costs;

(3) support efforts to bring the benefits of grid modernization and clean energy, including, but not limited to, deployment of distributed energy resources, to all retail customers, and support efforts to bring at least 40% of the benefits of those benefits to Equity Investment Eligible Communities. Nothing in this paragraph is meant to require a specific amount of spending in a particular geographic area;

(4) enable greater customer engagement, empowerment, and options for energy services;

(5) reduce grid congestion, minimize the time and expense associated with interconnection, and increase the capacity of the distribution grid to host increasing levels of distributed energy resources, to facilitate availability and development of distributed energy resources, particularly in locations that enhance consumer and environmental benefits;

(6) ensure opportunities for robust public participation through open, transparent planning processes.

(7) provide for the analysis of the cost-effectiveness of proposed system investments, which takes into account environmental costs and benefits;

(8) to the maximum extent practicable, achieve or support the achievement of Illinois environmental goals, including those described in Section 9.10 of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/9.10] and Section 1-75 of the Illinois Power Agency Act [20 ILCS 3855/1-75], and emissions reductions required to improve the health, safety, and prosperity of all Illinois residents;

(9) support existing Illinois policy goals promoting the long-term growth of energy efficiency, demand response, and investments in renewable energy resources;

(10) provide sufficient public information to the Commission, stakeholders, and market participants in order to enable nonemitting customer-owned or third-party distributed energy resources, acting individually or in aggregate, to seamlessly and easily connect to the grid, provide grid benefits, support grid services, and achieve environmental outcomes, without necessarily requiring utility ownership or controlling interest over those resources, and enable those resources to act as alternatives to utility capital investments; and

(11) provide delivery services at rates that are affordable to all customers, including low-income customers.

(e) Plan Development Stakeholder Process.

(1) To promote the transparency of utility distributions system planned investments and the planning process for those investments, the Commission shall convene a workshop process, over a period of no less than 5 months, for each such utility for the purpose of establishing an open, inclusive, and cooperative forum regarding such investments. The workshops shall be facilitated by an independent, third-party facilitator selected by the Commission. Data and projections provided through the workshop process shall be designed to provide participants with information about the electric utility's (i) historic distribution system investments for at least the 5 years prior to the year in which the workshop is held and (ii) planned investments for the 5-year period following the year in which the workshop is held. The workshop process shall recognize that estimates for later years will be less reliable and indicative of future

conduct than estimates for earlier years and that the electric utility is subject to financial and system planning processes. No later than January 1, 2022, the facilitator shall initiate a series of workshops for each electric utility subject to this Section. The series of workshops shall include no fewer than 6 workshops and shall conclude no later than June 1, 2022.

(2) The workshops shall be designed to achieve the following objectives:

(A) review utilities' planned capital investments and supporting data;

(B) review how utilities plan to invest in their distribution system in order to meet the system's projected needs;

(C) review system and locational data on reliability, resiliency, DER, and service quality provided by the utilities;

(D) solicit and consider input from diverse stakeholders, including representatives from environmental justice communities, geographically diverse communities, low-income representatives, consumer representatives, environmental representatives, organized labor representatives, third-party technology providers, and utilities;

(E) consider proposals from utilities and stakeholders on programs and policies necessary to achieve the objectives in subsection (d) of this Section;

(F) consider proposals applicable to each component of the utilities' Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan filings under paragraph (2) of subsection (f) of this Section;

(G) educate and equip interested stakeholders so that they can effectively and efficiently provide feedback and input to the electric utility; and

(H) review planned capital investment to ensure that delivery services are provided at rates that are affordable to all customers, including low-income customers.

(3) To the extent any of the information in subparagraphs (A) through (H) of paragraph (2) of this subsection is designated as confidential and proprietary under the Commission's rules, the proponent of the designation shall have the burden of making the requisite showing under the Commission's rules. For data that is determined to be confidential or that includes personally identifiable information, the Commission may develop procedures and processes to enable data sharing with parties and stakeholders while ensuring the confidentiality of the information.

(4) Workshops should be organized and facilitated in a manner that encourages representation from diverse stakeholders, ensuring equitable opportunities for participation, without requiring formal intervention or representation by an attorney. Workshops should be held during both day and evening hours, in a variety of locations within each electric utility's service territory, and should allow remote participation.

(5) It is a goal of the State that this workshop process will provide a forum for interested stakeholders to effectively and efficiently provide feedback and input to the electric utility. It is also a goal of the State that stakeholder participation in this process will prepare stakeholders to more capably participate in Multi-Year Rate Plan proceedings conducted pursuant to Section 16-108.18 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-108.18], if they so elect. As part of the workshop process, the electric utility shall submit to the Commission the electric utility's capital investments proposal, and supporting data described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (2) of this subsection (e) before the start of workshops to allow interested

stakeholders to reasonably review data before attending workshops. The Commission shall make public the utility capital investments proposal by posting it on the Commission's website and set the location and time of any workshop to be held as part of the workshop process, and establish a data request process, consistent with the Commission's rules, that affords workshop participants opportunities to submit data requests to the utility, and receive responses in accordance with the utility's obligations under the law, prior to the workshop, regarding the information described in this paragraph (5). Upon the written request of a workshop participant, the utility shall also present at a given workshop at least one appropriate company representative who can address the specific written questions or written categories of questions identified in advance by the workshop participant regarding issues related to the utility's Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan. To facilitate public feedback, the administrator facilitating the workshops shall, throughout the workshop process, develop questions for stakeholder input on topics being considered. This may include, but is not limited to: design of the workshop process, locational data and information provided by utilities, alignment of plans, programs, investments and objectives, and other topics as deemed appropriate by the Commission facilitation staff. Stakeholder feedback shall not be limited to these questions. The information provided as part of the workshop process pursuant to this subsection (e) is intended to be informational and to provide a preliminary view of costs and investments, which may change. Accordingly, the information provided pursuant to this subsection (e) shall not be binding on the utility and shall not be the sole basis for a finding in any Commission proceeding of imprudence, unreasonableness, or lack of use or usefulness of any individual or aggregate level of utility plant or other investment or expenditure addressed; however, information contained in the plan may be used in a proceeding before the Commission, with weight of such evidence to be determined by the Commission.

(6) Workshops shall not be considered settlement negotiations, compromise negotiations, or offers to compromise for the purposes of Illinois Rule of Evidence 408. All materials shared as a part of the workshop process, and that are not determined to be confidential as described in paragraph (3) of this subsection (e), shall be made publicly available on a website made available by the Commission.

(7) On conclusion of the workshops, the Commission shall open a comment period that allows interested and diverse stakeholders to submit comments and recommendations regarding the utility's Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan filing. Based on the workshop process and stakeholder comments and recommendations offered verbally or in writing during the workshops and in writing during the comment period following the workshops, the independent third-party facilitator shall prepare a report, to be submitted to the Commission no later than July 1, 2022, describing the stakeholders, discussions, proposals, and areas of consensus and disagreement from the workshop process, and making recommendations to the Commission regarding the utility's Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan. Interested stakeholders shall have an opportunity to provide comment on the independent third-party facilitator report.

(8) Based on discussions in the workshops, the independent third-party facilitator report, and stakeholder comments and recommendations made during and following the workshop process, the Commission shall issue initiating orders no later than August 1, 2022, requiring the electric utilities subject to this Section to file the first Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan no later than January 20, 2023. The initiating orders shall specify the requirements applicable to

the utilities' Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plans, which shall supplement and not replace those requirements described in subsection (f) of this Section.

(f) Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan.

(1) Pursuant to this subsection (f) and the initiating orders of the Commission, each electric utility subject to this Section shall, no later than January 20, 2023, submit its first Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan. No later than January 20, 2026, and every 4 years thereafter, the utility shall submit its subsequent Plan. Each Plan shall:

(A) incorporate requirements established by the Commission in its initiating order; and

(B) propose distribution system investment programs, policies, and plans designed to optimize achievement of the objectives set forth in subsection (d) of this Section and achieve the metrics approved by the Commission pursuant to Section 16-108.18 of this Act.

To the extent practicable and reasonable, all programs, policies, and initiatives proposed by the utility in its plan should be informed by stakeholder input received during the workshop process pursuant to subsection (e) of this Section. Where specific stakeholder input has not been incorporated in proposed programs, policies, and plans, the electric utility shall provide an explanation as to why that input was not incorporated.

(2) In order to ensure electric utilities' ability to meet the goals and objectives set forth in this Section, the Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plans must include, at minimum, the following information:

(A) A description of the utility's distribution system planning process, including:

(i) the overview of the process, including frequency and duration of the process, roles, and responsibilities of utility personnel and departments involved;

(ii) a summary of the meetings with stakeholders conducted prior to filing of the plan with the Commission.

(iii) the description of any coordination of the processes with any other planning process internal or external to the utility, including those required by a regional transmission operator.

(B) A detailed description of the current operating conditions for the distribution system separately presented for each of the utility's operating areas, where possible, including a detailed description, with supporting data, of system conditions, including baseline data regarding the utility's distribution system from the utility's annual report to the Commission, total distribution system substation capacity in kVa, total miles of primary overhead distribution wire, and total miles of primary underground distribution cable, distributed energy resource deployment by type, size, customer class, and geographic dispersion as to those DERs that have completed the interconnection process, the most current distribution line loss study, current and expected System Average Interruption Frequency Index and Customer Average Interruption Duration Index data for the system, identification of the system model software currently used and planned software deployments, and other data needs as requested by the Commission or as determined through Commission rules. The description shall also include the utility's most recent

system load and peak demand forecast for at least the next 5 years, and up to 10 years if available, a discussion of how the forecast was prepared and how distributed energy resources and energy efficiency were factored into the forecast, and identification of the forecasting software currently used and planned software deployments.

(C) Financial Data.

(i) For each of the preceding 5 years, the utility's distribution system investments by the investment categories tracked by the utility, including, but not limited to, new business, facility relocation, capacity expansion, system performance, preventive maintenance, corrective maintenance, the total amount of investments associated with the integration of DERs, the total amount of charges to DER developers and retail customers for interconnection of DERs to the distribution system, and a list of each major investment category the utility used to maintain its routine standing operational activities and the associated plant in service amount for each category in which the plant in service amount is at least $2,000,000;

(ii) For each of the preceding 5 years, data on and a discussion of the utility's distribution system operation and maintenance expenses;

(iii) A 5-year long-range forecast of distribution system capital investments and operational and maintenance expenses, including a discussion of any projections for expenses for the categories listed in subparagraph (i) of this item (C).

(D) System data on DERs on the utility's distribution system, including the total number and nameplate capacity of DERs that completed interconnection in the prior year, current DER deployment by type, size, and geographic dispersion, to the extent that granular geographic information does not disclose personally identifiable information, and other data as requested by the Commission or determined by Commission rules.

(E) Hosting Capacity and Interconnection Requirements.

(i) The utility shall make available on its website the hosting capacity analysis results that shall include mapping and GIS capability, as well as any other requirements requested by the Commission or determined through Commission rules. The plan shall identify where the hosting capacity analysis results shall be made publicly available. This shall also include an assessment of the impact of utility investments over the next 5 years on hosting capacity and a narrative discussion of how the hosting capacity analysis advances customer-sited distributed energy resources, including electric vehicles, energy storage systems, and photovoltaic resources, and how the identification of interconnection points on the distribution system will support the continued development of distributed energy resources.

(ii) Discussion of the utility's interconnection requirements and how they comply with the Commission's applicable regulations.

(F) Identification and discussion of the scenarios considered in the development of the utility's Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan, including DER scenarios, and discussion of base-case and alternative scenarios, how the scenarios were developed and selected, and how the scenarios include a reasonable mix of DERs scenarios, types, and geographic dispersion. Scenarios shall at least consider the 5-year forecast horizon of the Multi-Year Integrated

Grid Plan, but may also consider longer-term scenarios where data is available. The plan shall also include requirements requested by the Commission or determined through Commission rules.

(G) An evaluation of the short-term and long-run benefits and costs of distributed energy resources located on the distribution system, including, but not limited to, the locational, temporal, and performance-based benefits and costs of distributed energy resources. The utility shall use the results of this evaluation to inform its analysis of Solution Sourcing Opportunities, including nonwires alternatives, under subparagraph (K) of paragraph (2) subsection (f) of this Section. The Commission may use the data produced through this evaluation to, among other use-cases, inform the Commission's investigation and establishment of tariffs and compensation for distributed energy resources interconnecting to the utility's distribution system, including rebates provided by the electric utility pursuant to Section 16-107.6 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-107.6].

(H) Long-term Distribution System Investment Plan.

(i) The utility's planned distribution capital investments for the period covered by the planning process required by this Section, by the investment categories used by the utility, and with discussion of any individual planned projects with a planned total investment gross amount of $3,000,000 or more and of the alternatives considered by the utility to such individual projects including any non-traditional alternatives and DER alternatives, and supporting data. This shall provide sufficiently detailed explanations of how the planned investments shall support the goals in subsection (d) of this Section.

(ii) Discussion of how the utility's capital investments plan is consistent with Commission orders regarding the procurement of renewable resources as discussed in Section 16-111.5 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-111.5], energy efficiency plans as discussed in Section 8-103B, distributed generation rebates as discussed in Section 16-107.6, and any other Commission order affecting the goals described in subsection (d) of this Section.

(iii) A plan for achieving the applicable metrics that were approved by the Commission for the utility pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 16-108.18 of this Act.

(iv) A narrative discussion of the utility's vision for the distribution system over the next 5 years.

(v) Any additional information requested by the Commission or determined through Commission rules.

(I) A detailed description of historic distribution system operations and maintenance expenditures for the preceding 5 years and of planned or projected operations and maintenance expenditures for the period covered by the planning process required by this Section, as well as the data, reasoning and explanation supporting planned or projected expenditures. Any additional information requested by the Commission or determined through Commission rules.

(J) A detailed plan for achieving the applicable metrics that were approved by the Commission for the utility pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 16-108.18 of this Act, including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) A description of, exclusive of low-income rate relief programs and other income-qualified programs, how the utility is supporting efforts to bring 40% of benefits from programs, policies, and initiatives proposed in their Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan to ratepayers in low-income and environmental justice communities. This shall also include any information requested by the Commission or determined through Commission rules. Nothing in this subparagraph is meant to require a specific amount of spending in a particular geographic area.

(ii) A detailed analysis of current and projected flexible resources, including resource type, size (in MW and MWh), location and environmental impact, as well as anticipated needs that can be met using flexible resources, to meet the goals described in subsection (d) of this Section, to meet the applicable metrics that were approved by the Commission for the utility pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 16-108.18 of this Act, and any other Commission order affecting the goals described in subsection (d) of this Section.

(iii) Any additional information requested by the Commission or determined through Commission rules.

(K) Identification of potential cost-effective solutions from nontraditional and third-party owned investments that could meet anticipated grid needs, including, but not limited to, distributed energy resources procurements, tariffs or contracts, programmatic solutions, rate design options, technologies or programs that facilitate load flexibility, nonwires alternatives, and other solutions that are intended to meet the objectives described at subsection (d). It is the policy of this State that cost-effective third-party or customer-owned distributed energy resources create robust competition and customer choice and shall be considered as appropriate. The Commission shall establish rules determining data or methods for Solution Sourcing Opportunities.

(L) A detailed description of the utility's interoperability plan, which must describe the manner in which the electric utility's current and planned distribution system investments will work together and exchange information and data, the extent to which the utility is implementing open standards and interfaces with third-party distributed energy resource owners and aggregators, and the utility's plan for interoperability testing and certification.

(3) To the extent any information in utilities' Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plans is designated as confidential and proprietary under the Commission's rules, the proponent of the designation shall have the burden of making the requisite showing under the Commission's rules. For data that is determined to be confidential or that includes personally identifiable information, the Commission may develop procedures and processes to enable data sharing with parties and stakeholders while ensuring the confidentiality of the information. All confidential information exchanged, submitted, or shared by a utility pursuant to this Section shall be protected from intentional and accidental dissemination. The Commission shall have authority to supervise, protect, and restrict access to all confidential, commercially sensitive, or system security related information and data, and shall be authorized to take all necessary steps to protect that

information from unauthorized disclosure. This paragraph shall not be interpreted to require a utility to make publicly available any information or data that could compromise the physical or cyber security of a utility's distribution system. Any party that accidentally disseminates confidential information obtained pursuant to a proceeding initiated in accordance with this Section, or is the victim of a cyber-security breach, must notify the affected utility, the Illinois Attorney General, and the Commission staff with 24 hours of knowledge of such dissemination or breach. Any party that fails to provide required notification of such a breach shall be subject to remedies available to the Commission and the Illinois Attorney General.

(4) It is the policy of this State that holistic consideration of all related investments, planning processes, tariffs, rate design options, programs, and other utility policies and plans shall be required. To that end, the Commission shall consider, comprehensively, the impact of all related plans, tariffs, programs, and policies on the Plan and on each other, including:

(A) time-of-use pricing program pursuant to Section 16-107.7 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-107.7], hourly pricing program pursuant to Section 16-107 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-107], and any other time-variant or dynamic pricing program;

(B) distributed generation rebate pursuant to Section 16-107.6 of this Act;

(C) net electricity metering, pursuant to Section 16-107.5 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-107.5];

(D) energy efficiency programs pursuant to Section 8-103B of this Act [220 ILCS 5/8-103B];

(E) beneficial electrification programs pursuant to Section 16-107.8 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-107.8];

(F) Equitable Energy Upgrade Program pursuant to Section 16-111.10 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/16-111.10];

(G) renewable energy programs and procurements set forth in the Illinois Power Agency Act [20 ILCS 3855/1-1 et seq.], including, but not limited to, those set forth in the long-term renewable resources procurement plan developed pursuant to Section 1-20 of that Act [20 ILCS 3855/1-20]; and

(H) other plans, programs, and policies that are relevant to distribution grid investments, costs, planning, and other categories as requested by the Commission.

The Plan shall comprehensively detail the relationship between these plans, tariffs, and programs and to the electric utility's achievement of the objectives in subsection (d). The Plan shall be designed to coordinate each of these plans, programs, and tariffs with the electric utility's long-term distribution system investment planning in order to maximize the benefits of each.

(5) The initiating order for the initial Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan, as well as each electric utility's subsequent Integrated Grid Plans under subsection (g), shall begin a contested proceeding as described in subsection (d) of Section 10-101.1 of this Act [220 ILCS 5/10-101.1].

(A) In evaluating a utility's Plan, the Commission shall consider, at minimum, whether the Plan:

(1) meets the objectives of this Section;

(2) includes the components in paragraph (2) of subsection (f) of this Section;

(3) considers and incorporates, where practicable, input from interested stakeholders, including parties and people who offer public comment without legal representation;

(4) considers nontraditional, including third-party owned, investment alternatives that can meet grid needs and provide additional benefits (including consumer, economic, and environmental benefits) beyond comparable, traditional utility-planned capital investments;

(5) equitably benefits environmental justice communities; and

(6) maximizes consumer, environmental, economic, and community benefits over a 10-year horizon.

(B) The Commission, after notice and hearing, shall modify each electric utility's Plan as necessary to comply with the objectives of this Section. The Commission may approve, or modify and approve, a Plan only if it finds that the Plan is reasonable, complies with the objectives and requirements of this Section, and reasonably incorporates input from parties. The Commission may reject each electric utility's Plan if it finds that the Plan does not comply with the objectives and requirements of this Section. If the Commission enters an order rejecting a Plan, the utility must refile a Plan within 3 months after that order, and until the Commission approves a Plan, the utility's existing Plan will remain in effect.

(C) For the initial Integrated Grid Plan filings, the Commission shall enter an order approving, modifying, or rejecting the Plan no later than December 15, 2023. For subsequent Integrated Grid Plan filings, the Commission shall enter an order approving, modifying, or rejecting the Plan no later than December 15 of the year in which it was filed.

(D) Each electric utility shall file its proposed Initial Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan no later than January 20, 2023. Prior to that date and following the initiating order, the Commission shall initiate a case management conference and shall take any appropriate steps to begin meaningful consideration of issues, including enabling interested parties to begin conducting discovery.

(6) As part of its order approving a utility's Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan, including any modifications required, the Commission may create a subsequent implementation plan docket, or multiple implementation plan dockets, if the Commission determines that multiple dockets would be preferable, to consider a utility's detailed plan or plans, as directed in the Commission's order.

(g) No later than January 20, 2026 and every 4 years thereafter, each electric utility subject to this Section shall file a new Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan for the subsequent 4 delivery years after the completion of the then-effective Plan. Each Plan shall meet the requirements described in subsection (f) of this Section, and shall be preceded by a workshop process which meets the same requirements described in subsection (e). If appropriate, the Commission may require additional implementation dockets to follow Subsequent Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan filings.

(h) During the period leading to approval of the first Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan, each electric utility will necessarily continue to invest in its distribution grid. Those investments will be subject to a determination of prudence and reasonableness consistent with Commission practice and law. Any failure of such investments to conform to the Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan ultimately approved shall not imply imprudence or unreasonableness.

(i) The Commission shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this Section under the emergency rulemaking provisions set forth in Section 5-45 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act [5 ILCS 100/5-45], and such emergency rules may be effective no later than 90 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly.

History

2021 P.A. 102-662, § 90-50, effective September 16, 2021.

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