

## HB 324 -- Utility Contracts and Projects

Co-Sponsors: Richard, Stevenson, Dixon, Rector, Sager, Viebrock, Willoughby, Skaggs, LeVota

This bill allows gas and electric corporations, prior to entering into certain new contracts or construction projects, to file a petition with the Public Service Commission requesting a determination of how costs will be recovered in retail rates over the term of the contract or useful life of the constructed facility. To be eligible, contracts must be for the purchase of at least \$5 million of electric power; and projects must involve construction of a new electric or gas plant costing at least \$5 million for companies serving up to 100,000 Missouri customers, at least \$12 million for companies serving 100,000 to one million Missouri customers, or at least \$25 million for companies serving more than one million Missouri customers.

After receiving the petition, the commission must issue an order within 180 days stating the rate-making principles and treatments that will be used in all cost-related proceedings involving the contract or facility. If the commission does not act within 180 days, the rate-making principles and treatments proposed by the corporation will be considered approved. Within one year after the determination, the corporation must notify the commission if it plans to participate in the contract or construction project. If the corporation decides not to participate, the determination will be invalid and have no precedential value in subsequent proceedings.