

HB 488 -- UTILITIES (Hicks)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Utilities

This bill requires the Public Service Commission to adopt a renewable natural gas program for gas corporations. The Commission must establish reporting requirements and a process for gas corporations to fully recover prudent, just, and reasonable costs associated with a renewable natural gas program.

Any prudent, just, and reasonable costs incurred by a gas corporation are recovered by means of an automatic adjustment clause. The costs will include costs to establish and maintain equipment and facilities deemed prudent at the time the initial investment was made.

An affiliate of a gas corporation can not be prohibited from making a capital investment in a biogas production project if the affiliate is not a public utility.

The bill also prohibits any political subdivision of the state from adopting an ordinance, resolution, regulation, code, or policy that prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting the connection or reconnection of a utility service based on the type or source of energy to be delivered to an individual customer. No political subdivision of this state can adopt or enforce an ordinance, resolution, regulation, code, or policy that requires the connection of a private single-family residence to public water or sewer services if it is already served by an existing private well or septic system unless it was installed in violation of applicable ordinances at the time of installation.

This bill is the same as HB 2697 (2020).