



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 6779

LCO No. 3920

03920_____ET_

Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT CONCERNING NATURAL GAS SERVICE FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of
2 Public Utility Control shall, not later than January 1, 2006, adopt
3 regulations requiring all gas companies, as defined in section 16-1 of
4 the general statutes, to issue revised natural gas transportation service
5 balancing rules and imbalance penalties contained in gas company
6 tariffs to ensure that commercial and industrial natural gas customers
7 have access to the most competitively priced natural gas service
8 possible.

9 (b) The Department of Public Utility Control shall, not later than
10 January 1, 2006, adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 of the
11 general statutes requiring that daily metering for commercial and
12 industrial natural gas customers be required only for customers whose
13 annual consumption of natural gas is thirty million cubic feet or more
14 per year. No restriction or burden that hinders the ability of a
15 commercial and industrial natural gas customer to have access to the
16 most competitively priced natural gas service possible shall be

17 imposed on such a customer whose annual consumption is less than
18 thirty million cubic feet per year.

19 (c) No gas company shall attempt to recover a cost or charge,
20 including cost mitigation or recovery measures that might otherwise
21 be imposed as the result of the decision in Department of Public Utility
22 Control, Docket No. 97-07-11RE02, from commercial and industrial
23 natural gas firm transportation service customers in this state relating
24 to implementing the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this
25 section without establishing the necessity of such cost or charge
26 through a contested case proceeding before the Department of Public
27 Utility Control. In determining such a matter, the department shall
28 give effect to the true net costs associated with the firm transportation
29 program for commercial and industrial natural gas customers in
30 Connecticut.

31 (d) The Department of Public Utility Control shall, not later than
32 January 1, 2006, adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 of the
33 general statutes requiring each gas company to release, in a fair and
34 equitable manner, primary firm interstate pipeline capacity to
35 Connecticut natural gas marketers, registered pursuant to section 16-
36 258a of the general statutes, to the extent such released pipeline
37 capacity is not needed for such gas company's sales service and
38 exceeds the capacity required for the gas company to satisfy its
39 function as a supplier of last resort. Such regulations shall require that
40 the level of primary firm interstate pipeline capacity released to
41 Connecticut natural gas marketers be as large as is practicable, but not
42 be less than forty per cent of the annual capacity needed to serve the
43 commercial and industrial natural gas firm transportation service
44 customers in Connecticut.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Public Utility Control adopt regulations that give commercial and industrial natural gas customers access to gas service at competitive prices and that reduce metering requirements on small commercial and industrial users of gas service, to require a contested case before the Department of Public Utility Control should a gas company seek to recover claimed costs for implementing the provisions of this act, and to promulgate regulations requiring release of excess capacity on interstate gas pipelines.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]