



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 507

January Session, 2009

House Bill No. 6304

House of Representatives, April 6, 2009

The Committee on Energy and Technology reported through REP. NARDELLO of the 89th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC COSTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 16-244c of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (c) (1) On and after January 1, 2007, each electric distribution
5 company shall provide electric generation services through standard
6 service to any customer who (A) does not arrange for or is not
7 receiving electric generation services from an electric supplier, and (B)
8 [does not use a demand meter or] either has a maximum demand of
9 less than five hundred kilowatts or is a school district or a
10 municipality, provided no school district or municipality previously
11 receiving electric generation services from an electric supplier shall be
12 eligible to receive standard service unless such customer agrees to
13 receive standard service for a period of not less than six months.

14 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 16-243n of the general statutes is

15 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
16 *passage*):

17 (a) Not later than October 1, 2005, each electric distribution
18 company, as defined in section 16-1, shall submit an application to the
19 Department of Public Utility Control to (1) on or before January 1,
20 2007, implement time-of-use rates for customers that have a maximum
21 demand of not less than three hundred fifty kilowatts that may
22 include, but not be limited to, mandatory peak, shoulder and off-peak
23 time-of-use rates, and (2) on or before June 1, 2006, offer optional
24 interruptible or load response rates for customers that have a
25 maximum demand of not less than three hundred fifty kilowatts and
26 offer optional seasonal and time-of-use rates for all customers. The
27 application shall propose to establish time-of-use rates through a
28 procurement plan, revenue neutral adjustments to delivery rates, or
29 both. On and after the effective date of this section, such application
30 shall not include school districts and municipalities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	16-244c(c)(1)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	16-243n(a)

ET *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Various Municipalities	See Below	See Below	See Below

Explanation

This bill allows large school districts and municipalities to choose between last resort service or standard service. Last resort service must be priced to track changes in wholesale market rates while standard service must be priced to reduce volatility. There is a potential cost or savings by allowing large school districts and municipalities the choice between the types of service. Under current law, large school districts and municipalities were required to use last resort service. If a school district or municipality was to choose standard service, there is a potential savings if the wholesale market is more volatile, causing electric rates to be higher. If the wholesale market is not volatile, there is a potential higher cost.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

Source: The Connecticut Light and Power Company

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6304*****AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC COSTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill changes the types of service that electric companies must provide to large school district and municipal accounts that have not chosen a competitive supplier. Under current law, electric companies must serve all customers who have not chosen a supplier with last-resort service if their maximum demand is 500 kilowatts or more and they use a demand meter. The bill exempts school districts or municipalities from this requirement, thereby transferring them to the standard service that is provided to small and medium-size customers who have not chosen a competitive supplier. But if the school district or municipality had previously bought power from a competitive supplier it must agree to stay on standard service for at least six months. Conversely, the bill switches any customer whose demand is 500 kilowatts or more but who does not use a meter from standard service to last-resort service. By law, last-resort service must be priced to track changes in wholesale market rates while standard service must be priced to reduce volatility.

The bill appears to exempt school districts and municipalities from (1) requirements for mandatory time-of-use rates (i.e., rates that vary by the time of day) and optional interruptible or load-response rates for accounts with demand of 350 kilowatts or more and (2) optional seasonal and time-of-use rates for all accounts. By law, the electric companies were required to submit an application, by October 1, 2005, to the Department of Public Utility Control for approval of their rates. The bill specifies that the companies' applications cannot include school districts and municipalities. However, the plans have already been submitted and approved.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/19/2009)