

Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

HB 405 — Linear Facilities

by Reps. Williamson and Payne (SB 494 by Senator Lee)

This bill amends the exemptions from the land-use-consistency provisions of the Power Plant Siting Act (PPSA) and Transmission Line Siting Act (TLSA) to provide that they apply to established rights-of-way and corridors, to rights-of-way and corridors yet to be established, and to the creation of distribution and transmission corridors. The bill establishes the standard to be used in authorizing variances in a site certification under the PPSA and the TLSA. Finally, the bill provides that the PPSA and TLSA cannot affect in any way the Public Service Commission's exclusive jurisdiction to require transmission lines to be located underground.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 34-4; House 105-2

Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities

HB 7095 — OGSR/Local Government Electric Utility

by Government Accountability Committee and Rep. McClain (CS/SB 7008 by Rules Committee; and Communications, Energy and Public Utilities Committee)

The bill removes the scheduled repeal of the public records exemption for proprietary confidential business information held by a local government electric utility in conjunction with either a due diligence review of an electric project or a project to improve the delivery, cost, or diversification of fuel or renewable energy resources. As a result, these records will remain exempt from disclosure requirements under public records law.

The bill also narrows and clarifies the information that is considered proprietary confidential. First, it removes the phrase “but not limited to” in the context of the list of types of information included in the phrase “proprietary confidential business information.” Second, the bill clarifies the meaning of the term “trade secrets” by referencing the existing definition in s. 688.002, F.S.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2018.

Vote: Senate 34-0; House 113-0