By Senator DiCeglie

18-00696A-23 20231162

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to renewable energy cost recovery; amending s. 366.91, F.S.; revising the types of contracts which are eligible for cost recovery by a public utility under certain circumstances; authorizing a public utility to recover prudently incurred renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure project costs through the appropriate Public Service Commission cost-recovery mechanism; providing that such costs prudently incurred are not subject to further actions except under certain circumstances; specifying eligible renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure projects; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 366.91, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to that section, to read:

366.91 Renewable energy.

(9) The commission may approve cost recovery by a gas public utility for Contracts for the purchase of renewable natural gas and hydrogen in which the pricing provisions exceed the current market price of natural gas are eligible for cost recovery, but only if which are otherwise deemed reasonable and prudent by the commission finds that the contract meets the overall goals of subsection (1) by promoting the development or use of renewable energy resources in this state and providing

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fuel diversification.

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(10) A public utility may recover, through the appropriate cost-recovery mechanism administered by the commission, prudently incurred costs for renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure projects. If the commission determines that such costs were prudently incurred, those costs are not subject to disallowance or further prudence review except for fraud, perjury, or intentional withholding of key information by the public utility. For purposes of this subsection for utility cost recovery only, renewable natural gas may include a mixture of natural gas and renewable natural gas. Eligible renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure projects include, but are not limited to, capital investment in projects necessary to prepare or produce renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel for pipeline distribution and usage; capital investment in facilities, including pipelines, necessary to inject and deliver renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel throughout this state; renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel storage facilities; operation and maintenance expenses associated with any such renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure projects; and an appropriate return on investment consistent with that allowed for other utility plants used to provide service to customers.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.