Bill No. HB 821 (2023)

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	ACTION
ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee

Representative Yeager offered the following:

#### Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 366.91, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to that section, to read:

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366.91 Renewable energy.-

(9) The commission may approve cost recovery by a gas public utility for <u>A public utility</u> contracts for the purchase of renewable natural gas <u>or hydrogen fuel</u> in which the pricing provisions exceed the current market price of natural gas is <u>eligible for cost recovery</u>, but <u>only if</u> which are otherwise deemed reasonable and prudent by the commission <u>finds</u>, that the 349417 - h0821-strike.docx

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17	contract provides net benefits to the public utility and its
18	customers and is therefore in the public interest. In making
19	this determination, the commission may consider the contract's
20	impact on the overall diversity of the public utility's natural
21	gas commodity supply or other fuel supply, the potential to
22	reduce the impact of volatility in the natural gas commodity
23	market upon the public utility and its customers, any
24	reliability benefits associated with the in-state production of
25	these fuel supplies, and the public utility's cost of fuel.
26	(10) (a) A public utility may petition the commission for
27	approval to recover costs prudently incurred for a renewable
28	natural gas or hydrogen fuel infrastructure project at a
29	location in Florida for use in providing utility service within
30	this state.
31	(b) In its review of a petition filed pursuant to this
32	subsection, the commission shall consider:
33	1. The estimated volume and reliability of renewable
34	natural gas or hydrogen fuel that the project will produce for
35	use by the public utility, and the comparative cost of the same
36	volume of volume of natural gas purchases;
37	2. The estimated rate impact of the project over time,
38	including estimated savings, if any, to the public utility and
39	its customers;
40	3. The service and reliability benefits to be derived from
41	the project;
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42	4. The proposed mechanism for recovery of project costs;
43	5. The impact of the project on fuel diversity in this
44	state and fuel cost volatility; and
45	6. Any other matter deemed relevant by the commission.
46	(c)1. Upon consideration of all matters specified in
47	paragraph (b), the commission shall determine whether, and the
48	extent to which, approval for recovery of project costs from the
49	public utility's ratepayers provides net benefits to the state
50	and is therefore in the public interest.
51	2. If the commission approves recovery of project costs,
52	in whole or in part, the commission shall determine the
53	appropriate mechanism for recovery of such costs. Appropriate
54	mechanisms may include an existing cost recovery mechanism, not
55	excluding base rates, or a new cost recovery mechanism
56	established by the commission.
57	3. Costs approved by the commission are not subject to
58	disallowance or further prudence review except for fraud,
59	perjury, or intentional withholding of material information by
60	the public utility.
61	(d) Costs of renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel
62	infrastructure projects that are eligible for recovery under
63	this subsection include:
64	1. Capital investment in projects necessary to prepare or
65	produce renewable natural gas or hydrogen fuel for pipeline
66	distribution and usage;
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67	2. Capital investment in facilities, including pipelines,
68	necessary to inject into pipelines, and deliver for utility use,
69	renewable natural gas or hydrogen fuel throughout this state;
70	3. Renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel storage
71	facilities;
72	4. Operation and maintenance expenses associated with such
73	renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure projects;
74	and
75	5. An appropriate return on investment consistent with the
76	utility's authorized return on investment for other utility
77	plants used to provide service to customers.
78	(e) Recovery of costs incurred by a public utility for a
79	renewable natural gas or hydrogen fuel infrastructure project
80	approved for cost recovery under this section shall not be
81	allowed until such facility is placed in service. Upon approval
82	of cost recovery by the commission, costs incurred prior to the
83	facility being placed in service may be deferred on the public
84	utility's books for recovery once the facility is in service.
85	This shall not preclude application of any other appropriate
86	regulatory accounting rules that are otherwise deemed
87	appropriate, including but not limited to, normal recovery of
88	costs for construction work in progress.
89	(f) Beginning January 1, 2025, the commission must
90	annually submit a report to the Governor, the President of the
91	Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
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92	indicating, for the 12-month reporting period and cumulatively:
93	the investment made in such infrastructure projects; the
94	eligible costs incurred and the amount of such costs recovered;
95	the volume of renewable natural gas or hydrogen fuel used to
96	provide utility service; and an analysis of the price of
97	renewable natural gas or hydrogen fuel used to provide utility
98	service as compared to the market cost of gas, including actual
99	rate impacts of such projects.
100	(g) This subsection shall stand repealed on June 30, 2028,
101	unless reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature. A
102	public utility may continue to recover eligible costs of
103	renewable natural gas or hydrogen fuel infrastructure projects
104	approved prior to June 30, 2028, under this subsection as being
105	in the public interest.
106	(h) The commission may adopt rules to implement and
107	administer this section.
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111	TITLE AMENDMENT
112	Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:
113	An act relating to renewable energy cost recovery; amending s.
114	366.91, F.S.; revising the types of contracts which are eligible
115	for cost recovery by a public utility under certain
116	circumstances; authorizing a public utility to recover prudently
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117 incurred renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure project costs approved by the Public Service Commission; 118 119 establishing criteria for consideration by the Public Service 120 Commission; establishing terms for cost recovery; specifying 121 eligible renewable natural gas and hydrogen fuel infrastructure projects; requiring an annual report; providing for repeal on 122 123 June 30, 2028, unless reviewed and saved from repeal by the 124 Legislature; providing an effective date.

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