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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

2014-2015 Regulatory Agenda

October 2014 – September 2015

*(includes March 24, 2015 Ch. 420 amendment)*

**65-407:** **Maine Public Utilities Commission -General**

**65-625: Emergency Services Communication Bureau**

UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER: **65-407**

AGENCY NAME: **Maine Public Utilities Commission**

**CONTACT PERSON:** Joanne B. Steneck, General Counsel, 18 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Tel: (207) 287-1390; E-mail: Joanne.Steneck@Maine.gov .

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA:** None

**CONSENSUS – BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS:** At this time, the Commission does not anticipate engaging in the consensus – based rule development process described in 5 M.R.S. §8051-B during 2014-2015.

**EXPECTED 2014-2015 RULE-MAKING ACTIVITY:**

**Chapter 2XX:** Reassignment of Provider of Last Resort Service

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §7221

PURPOSE: To adopt rules to implement P.L. 2011 ch. 623

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: Entities designated as providers of last resort service and their customers

**Chapter 2XX:** Consumer Protection Standards for Provider of Last Resort Service

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §7223

PURPOSE: To adopt rules to implement P.L. 2011 ch. 623

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Winter 2015

AFFECTED PARTIES: Entities designated as providers of last resort service and their customers

**Chapter 285:** Maine Telecommunications Education Access Fund

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §7104-B

PURPOSE: To adopt amendments to make rule consistent with P.L. 2011 ch. 600

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: Telecommunications carriers and their customers

**Chapter 288:** Maine Universal Service Fund

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §7104

PURPOSE: To adopt amendments to make rule consistent with P.L. 2011 ch. 600

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: Telecommunications carriers and their customers

**Chapter 301:** Standard Offer Service

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §3212

PURPOSE: To update the rule's credit and collection provisions

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: Standard Offer Providers and T&D Utilities

**Chapter 305:** Licensing Requirements, Annual Reporting, Enforcement and Consumer Protection Provisions for CEPs

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §3203

PURPOSE: To update rule to reflect increased market activity and experience in administering rule

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: CEPs, T&D Utilities and their customers

**CHAPTER 306:** Uniform Information Disclosure and Informational Filing Requirements

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §3203

PURPOSE: To delete provisions moved to Ch. 305

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: CEPs, T&D Utilities and their customers

**Chapter 322:** Metering, Billing, Collections and Enrollment Interactions Among Transmissions and Distribution Utilities and Competitive Electricity Providers

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §3203

PURPOSE: To update the rule's credit and collection provisions

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: Transmission and Distribution Utilities and CEPs

**Chapter 330:** Filing Requirement for Certification of Public Convenience and Necessity for Electric Transmission Facilities

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §§ 3131, 3132

PURPOSE: To amend the rule to reflect recent statutory changes in P.L. 2013, ch. 369 §C-1. C-8

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Winter 2015

AFFECTED PARTIES: T&D Utilities

**CHAPTER 4XX:** Reduction of Methane Leakage

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §4508

PURPOSE: To consider policies that reduce the probability of methane leakage in natural gas pipelines

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Winter 2015

AFFECTED PARTIES: The public and natural gas pipeline utilities

*Ch. 420 added by amendment Marcy 24, 2015*

**CHAPTER 420:** Safety Standards for Natural Gas and Liquefied Natural Gas Facility Operators

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 35-A M.R.S. §§ 111, 4508, 4515, 4516-A, 4705-A

PURPOSE: To establish an accommodation program for the placement and excavation of underground utility facilities

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Spring 2015

AFFECTED PARTIES: Natural gas facility operators

**CHAPTER 6XX:** Water Regulatory Reform for Consumer-owned Water Utilities

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: P.L. 2013 ch. 573, 35-A M.R.S. §6114

PURPOSE: Establish standards for allowing statutory exemptions for consumer-owned water utilities

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: Consumer-owned Water Utilities and their customers

**Chapter 895:** Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 23 M.R.S. §3360-A, P.L. 2013 ch. 557

PURPOSE: To amend the rules consistent with statutory changes

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014 (major substantive rule)

AFFECTED PARTIES: Utilities and excavators

**CHAPTER 8XX:** Arrears Forgiveness

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: P.L. 2013, ch. 556; 35-A M.R.S. §3214(2-A)

PURPOSE: Establish an arrears forgiveness program for T&D low income residential customers

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Fall 2014

AFFECTED PARTIES: Low income customers of T&D utilities

AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER: **65-625**

AGENCY NAME: Maine Public Utilities Commission, **Emergency Services Communication Bureau**

**CONTACT PERSON:** Joanne B. Steneck, General Counsel, 18 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Tel: (207)287-1390; E-mail: Joanne.Steneck@Maine.gov .

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA:** None

**EXPECTED 2014-2015 RULE-MAKING ACTIVITY:**

**Chapter 2:** Requirements for Enhanced 9-1-1 System Service Provider and Local Exchange Carriers

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 25 M.R.S. §2927(3)

PURPOSE: To consider changes to section 8 of the rule

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Winter 2015

AFFECTED PARTIES: Local Exchange Carriers