Public Utility Commission

Recommended Changes to H.727

February 6, 2026

Section 284 – Tariffs. Contracts.

Recommend restructuring this to remove the requirement that the Commission proactively develop 17 tariffs for data centers. In lieu of tariffs, utilities should be required to enter into special contracts with data centers pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 229; this provision allows utilities to provide service to customers outside of a tariff structure as long as the contract is approved by the Commission. The provisions in Section 284(c) could still be required, although the contract duration in Section 284(c)(1) should not be mandated as at least ten years. In addition, the provisions in Section 284(b)(1)-(5) should be included as the criteria that shall be used by the Commission in its review of the proposed special contract.

Section 285 – Siting

Recommend deleting this section. Any new structure with a 20 MW load will require transmission service and the Commission would review that new infrastructure under 30 V.S.A. § 248. In addition, the Commission's review of the special contract under Section 284 will protect ratepayers. The Commission does not provide any particular expertise related to siting data centers and does not have the resources to proactively develop siting rules for data centers.