

Public Service Department alternate language for Section 4

February 4, 2014

ENERGY EFFICIENCY; FUEL-SWITCHING; LOAD MANAGEMENT; INVESTIGATION

(a) On or before December 15, 2014, the Public Service Board shall conduct and complete an investigation on the most cost-effective mechanisms by which Vermont ratepayers can advance state energy policy as defined in 30 V.S.A. § 202a through load management and fuel switching for heating and transportation.

Deleted: the implementation of 30 V.S.A. § 209 as amended by this act

(b) The Board need not conduct the investigation as a contested case under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 but shall provide notice and an opportunity for written and oral comments to the public and affected parties and State agencies.

(c) The investigation shall consider each of the following and any other issue the Board determines relevant:

(1) Whether implementation of 30 V.S.A. § 209 as amended by this act would be the most cost-effective mechanism to advance state energy policy through load management and fuel switching. If so, the Board shall identify the next steps for implementation of this amendment. If not, the Board shall recommend any alternate statutory changes in 30 V.S.A. § 209 or elsewhere required to implement state energy policy in the manner determined through this investigation.

(2) the appropriate roles and responsibilities of electric distribution utilities and energy efficiency utilities in providing load management, through such mechanisms as time-of-use or dynamic rates and active demand response, and in deploying new technologies, such as air source heat pumps or electric vehicles, that have the potential to increase the demand for electrical energy

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while decreasing demand for other fuels used for thermal or transportation energy (new electric thermal and transportation technologies);

(3) the benefits and costs, if any, that may accrue to electric ratepayers as a whole and individually from the deployment of new electric thermal and transportation technologies, and the benefits and costs from those technologies that may accrue to the State and to the environment;

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(4) the conditions, if any, under which it is appropriate for customers of a distribution utility to fund switching energy customers from one fuel to another, including particularly the use of the energy efficiency charge or other distribution utility funding or financing to support the deployment of new electric thermal or transportation technologies; and

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(5) the appropriate roles and responsibilities of electric distribution utilities, energy efficiency utilities, the Clean Energy Development Fund, and providers of renewable electric generation in coordinating the delivery of efficiency services and consideration of on-site renewable electric generation.

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Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Sec. 4 shall take effect on passage.

(b) Secs. 1 (definitions), 2 (jurisdiction; general scope) and 3 (least cost integrated planning)

shall take effect on July 1, 2015, except that they shall apply to the Public Service Board's investigation under Sec. 4.

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