

S.305- As Voted by House Environment and Energy

Section by Section Summary

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Sec.	Citation	Summary
Notice/Miscellaneous Provisions		
1	3 V.S.A. § 165	Corrects old reference to PSB to Public Utility Commission.
2	30 V.S.A. § 8(d)	Notice for hearings regarding basic exchange telecommunications services shall comply with notice requires of 30 V.S.A. § 10 which is 12 days.
3	30 V.S.A. §10(c)	Clarifies that “hearings” means public hearings and evidentiary hearings.
4	30 V.S.A. § 102	Notice for hearing regarding whether a company shall be regulated by PUC shall comply with notice requires of 30 V.S.A. § 10 which is 12 days.
5	30 V.S.A. § 231	Notice for hearing on a CPG for a utility shall be regulated by PUC shall comply with notice requires of 30 V.S.A. § 10 which is 12 days.
6	30 V.S.A. § 248(u)	Strikes redundant language in energy storage regulation under section 248
Energy Efficiency Modernization Act		
7		Amends pilot program from 2020 that allows EVT and BED to spend a portion of their energy efficiency funds on thermal and transportation efficiency programs. Removes PUC’s authority to review and approve the budget and programs under this pilot. Sets cap on amount BED can spend at \$800,000. Program will end in 2026.
Clean Heat Standard		
8	30 V.S.A. § 8124	Under the CHS, changes the annual registration date for fuel sellers to June 30 from January 31. Strikes the requirement that all information submitted by fuel sellers be posted on the PUC’s website.
9	30 V.S.A. § 8125	Under the CHS, removes the requirement that the default delivery agent be appointed by June 1, 2024 and changes it so that the first DDA plan and budget must be finished by Sept. 1, 2025. Makes a change so that the DDA credit costs shall be posted 90 days in advance rather than 120 days.

10	30 V.S.A. § 8126	Under the CHS, narrows which orders need to comply with the additional requirements to those that amend rules.
11	2023 Act 18, Sec. 6	Fixes an incorrect cross-reference.
12	32 V.S.A. § 3102	Requires the Commissioner of Tax to share tax return with the PUC and DPS for compliance with the CHS.
Energy Storage Fees		
13	30 V.S.A. § 248c(d)	Sets fees for CPGs for energy storage facilities at \$100 and \$25 for modification of CPGs for energy storage facilities
Energy Savings Account		
14	30 V.S.A. § 209	Makes updates to the Energy Savings Account program so that customer funds can be spent on electric energy efficiency projects and non-electric efficiency projects, which may include thermal and process fuel efficiency, flexible load management, combined heat and power systems, demand management, energy productivity, and energy storage. Allows the funds to also be spent on administrative, measurement, verification, and evaluation costs in addition to systemwide benefits. It sets a cap of \$2M on the ESA and \$1M on the customer credit program.
Thermal Energy		
15	30 V.S.A. § 201	Adds definitions for “thermal energy” and “thermal energy network”
16	30 V.S.A. § 231	States that municipalities do not need a CPG to construct, operate, set rates for, finance, and use eminent domain for a thermal energy network
17		The PUC shall report back on how to support the development of thermal energy networks and the permitting of thermal energy network providers. Report due Dec. 1, 2025.
Baseload Power		
18	30 V.S.A. § 8009	Extends the deadlines by one year for the required construction of an efficiency project at the baseload power plant (aka Ryegate).
19		Session law provision that requires for the next 3 years Ryegate to offer its suppliers contracts for timely

		payments, to pay a penalty if timely payments are not made, and to hire a CPA to monitor timely payments.
Dig Safe; Notice of Excavation Activities		
20	30 V.S.A. § 7004(c)	Changes the advanced notice requirement for Dig Safe from 48 hrs to 72 hrs.
Energy Cost Stabilization Study		
21		The Public Utility Commission shall study current and potential future programs and initiatives focused on reducing or stabilizing energy costs for low- or moderate-income households. Report due Dec. 1, 2025.
22	Effective date	On passage, except that Sec. 20 takes effect on Nov. 1, 2024