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Sec. 2. RULEMAKING

On or before January 15, 2028, the Chair of the Public Utility Commission shall file final proposed rules with the Secretary of State and Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules for the certificate of public good process under 30 V.S.A. § 248a. The rules shall seek to improve transparency ~~and public participation~~, efficiency, and fairness in the siting process and shall address the following topics ~~and/or procedures~~:

~~(1) public hearings the advance notice process;~~

~~(2) site visits petition submission requirements based on project categories;~~

~~(3) balloon tests the post-petition comment period;~~

~~(4) discovery contested case proceedings following a “significant issue” determination;~~

~~(5) motion practice the conduct of evidentiary hearings ;~~

~~(6) setbacks- evidentiary burdens for Section 248a criteria;~~

~~(7) the scope of standing and the process for municipal entities and regional planning commissions to provide recommendations supplements and amendments to a pending petition;~~

~~(8) the process for public participation in evidentiary hearings transfers of certificates of public good; and~~

~~(9) any other issues topics the Commission wants to consider determines should be addressed through rules following consultation with stakeholders.~~

~~To the extent that the Commission determines that one or more of the foregoing topics are more expeditiously addressed through an order pursuant to 30 V.S.A. 248a(1), it may do so, provided that it explain its reasoning as part of the final proposed rules under this Section.~~