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"Legislative Roundup," Herald News, 5-5-15

LAW/RWH

P.L.2015, CHAPTER 39, *approved May 4, 2015*
Senate, No. 1349 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT ¹requiring the public electric utilities to prepare a study to
2 better monitor] concerning¹ street light ¹outages,] outage
3 reporting¹ and supplementing ¹chapter 1A of Title 27] Title 48¹
4 of the Revised Statutes.

5
6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
7 of New Jersey:

8
9 ¹1. Every electric public utility, as defined by section 3 of
10 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51), shall prepare and submit to the
11 Commissioner of Transportation, the Commissioner of Community
12 Affairs, and the President of the Board of Public Utilities, a written
13 study, which sets forth and evaluates the options available to better
14 monitor street light outages and repair within their service areas.
15 The study shall present a complete and thorough description of each
16 possible monitoring option, which shall include but not be limited
17 to:

18 a. The technology to be utilized in each new monitoring
19 system;

20 b. A detailed examination as to the extent to which each
21 monitoring option shall be expected to identify each street light
22 outage;

23 c. An assessment of the estimated costs of each monitoring
24 option;

25 d. The estimated time of implementation of each monitoring
26 option; and

27 e. For each monitoring option, the estimated time between
28 identification of an outage and repair of an outage;

29 The study shall review the variety of public agencies and
30 instrumentalities, such as the New Jersey Department of
31 Transportation, the toll road authorities, counties, and
32 municipalities, and of private entities such as developers,
33 homeowner associations, and public utilities, that may be
34 responsible for maintenance and repair of street lights. The study
35 shall also include a preliminary recommendation as to which
36 monitoring and repair option is most feasible and efficient in
37 monitoring street light outages, and a summary of other possible
38 monitoring options which were not considered in the study and the
39 reasons why those options were not identified as feasible options to
40 address street light outages.]¹

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEG committee amendments adopted May 5, 2014.

1 ¹[2. The Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with
2 the Commissioner of Community Affairs and the President of the
3 Board of Public Utilities, shall enact rules and regulations providing
4 for the implementation of the option that best addresses the
5 monitoring and repair of street light outages, pursuant to the
6 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
7 seq.).]¹
8

9 ¹1. Each electric public utility, as defined in section 3 of
10 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51), shall, upon the direction of the Board of
11 Public Utilities, prepare and file with the Board of Public Utilities, a
12 street light outage plan within the electric public utility’s service
13 territory. The plan shall be designed for the provision of reasonably
14 prompt reporting of street light outages, and may include the
15 following:

16 a. Methods to inform and educate the public and local officials
17 concerning utilization of the electric public utility’s existing street
18 light outage reporting system;

19 b. Methods to identify and monitor street light outages in areas
20 where outages may occur with increased frequency due to human
21 interference, or where street light outages may pose an increased
22 risk to public safety. An electric public utility shall engage local
23 elected officials and law enforcement as appropriate;

24 c. Information regarding factors which contribute to the cost,
25 timing, and manner of work required for street light outage
26 restoration, such as whether restoration may involve the
27 maintenance or repair of equipment that is located underground;
28 and

29 d. Any method to improve the reporting and restoration of
30 street light outages, which the electric public utility determines is
31 reasonable.¹
32

33 ¹[3.] 2.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.
34
35

36 _____
37
38 Concerns street light outage reporting.

SENATE, No. 1349

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 2014

Sponsored by:
Senator RONALD L. RICE
District 28 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires electric public utilities to prepare a study to better monitor street light outages.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT requiring the public electric utilities to prepare a study to
2 better monitor street light outages, and supplementing chapter
3 1A of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. Every electric public utility, as defined by section 3 of
9 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51), shall prepare and submit to the
10 Commissioner of Transportation, the Commissioner of Community
11 Affairs, and the President of the Board of Public Utilities, a written
12 study, which sets forth and evaluates the options available to better
13 monitor street light outages and repair within their service areas.
14 The study shall present a complete and thorough description of each
15 possible monitoring option, which shall include but not be limited
16 to:

17 a. The technology to be utilized in each new monitoring
18 system;

19 b. A detailed examination as to the extent to which each
20 monitoring option shall be expected to identify each street light
21 outage;

22 c. An assessment of the estimated costs of each monitoring
23 option;

24 d. The estimated time of implementation of each monitoring
25 option; and

26 e. For each monitoring option, the estimated time between
27 identification of an outage and repair of an outage;

28 The study shall review the variety of public agencies and
29 instrumentalities, such as the New Jersey Department of
30 Transportation, the toll road authorities, counties, and
31 municipalities, and of private entities such as developers,
32 homeowner associations, and public utilities, that may be
33 responsible for maintenance and repair of street lights. The study
34 shall also include a preliminary recommendation as to which
35 monitoring and repair option is most feasible and efficient in
36 monitoring street light outages, and a summary of other possible
37 monitoring options which were not considered in the study and the
38 reasons why those options were not identified as feasible options to
39 address street light outages.

40
41 2. The Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with
42 the Commissioner of Community Affairs and the President of the
43 Board of Public Utilities, shall enact rules and regulations providing
44 for the implementation of the option that best addresses the
45 monitoring and repair of street light outages, pursuant to the
46 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
47 seq.).

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill directs every electric public utility doing business in
7 New Jersey to prepare a study evaluating options to improve the
8 monitoring of street light outages. This study, which is to be
9 submitted to the Commissioner of Transportation, the
10 Commissioner of Community Affairs, and the President of the
11 Board of Public Utilities, shall contain a detailed description of
12 each potential monitoring and repair option, an estimated cost of
13 each option, an estimated time of implementation for each option,
14 an estimated time for the repair of street lights with each option,
15 and a preliminary recommendation as to which option would be
16 best suited to address street light outages. The study will also
17 include a summary of other possible monitoring options that were
18 not considered and an explanation as to why those options were not
19 considered.

20 The Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the
21 Commissioner of Community Affairs and the President of the Board
22 of Public Utilities, shall adopt rules and regulations that support the
23 option that best addresses the monitoring and repair of street light
24 outages. The Legislature recognizes functioning street lights are an
25 important public safety concern.

SENATE ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1349

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 5, 2014

The Senate Economic Growth Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1349.

As amended and reported, this bill directs every electric public utility (utility) doing business in New Jersey, upon the direction of the Board of Public Utilities (BPU), to prepare and file with the BPU, a street light outage plan within the utility's service territory. The plan is to be designed for the provision of reasonably prompt reporting of street light outages, and may include the following:

(1) Methods to inform and educate the public and local officials concerning utilization of the utility's existing street light outage reporting system;

(2) Methods to identify and monitor street light outages in areas where outages may occur with increased frequency due to human interference, or where street light outages may pose an increased risk to public safety. A utility is to engage local elected officials and law enforcement as appropriate;

(3) Information regarding factors which contribute to the cost, timing, and manner of work required for street light outage restoration, such as whether restoration may involve the maintenance or repair of equipment that is located underground; and

(4) Any method to improve the reporting and restoration of street light outages, which the utility determines is reasonable.

The committee amended the bill to replace the provisions of the bill as introduced with the above provisions.

ASSEMBLY TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 1349

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 5, 2015

The Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1349 (1R).

This bill directs every electric public utility (utility) doing business in New Jersey, upon the direction of the Board of Public Utilities (BPU), to prepare and file with the BPU, a street light outage plan within the utility's service territory. The plan is to be designed for the provision of reasonably prompt reporting of street light outages, and may include the following:

(1) Methods to inform and educate the public and local officials concerning utilization of the utility's existing street light outage reporting system;

(2) Methods to identify and monitor street light outages in areas where outages may occur with increased frequency due to human interference, or where street light outages may pose an increased risk to public safety. A utility is to engage local elected officials and law enforcement as appropriate;

(3) Information regarding factors which contribute to the cost, timing, and manner of work required for street light outage restoration, such as whether restoration may involve the maintenance or repair of equipment that is located underground; and

(4) Any method to improve the reporting and restoration of street light outages, which the utility determines is reasonable.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 1349 (1R) is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3739, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3739

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ANGEL FUENTES

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Coughlin and Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttle

SYNOPSIS

Concerns street light outage reporting.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/24/2015)

1 AN ACT concerning street light outage reporting and supplementing
2 Title 48 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Each electric public utility, as defined in section 3 of
8 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51), shall, upon the direction of the Board of
9 Public Utilities, prepare and file with the Board of Public Utilities, a
10 street light outage plan within the electric public utility's service
11 territory. The plan shall be designed for the provision of reasonably
12 prompt reporting of street light outages, and may include the
13 following:

14 a. Methods to inform and educate the public and local officials
15 concerning utilization of the electric public utility's existing street
16 light outage reporting system;

17 b. Methods to identify and monitor street light outages in areas
18 where outages may occur with increased frequency due to human
19 interference, or where street light outages may pose an increased
20 risk to public safety. An electric public utility shall engage local
21 elected officials and law enforcement as appropriate;

22 c. Information regarding factors which contribute to the cost,
23 timing, and manner of work required for street light outage
24 restoration, such as whether restoration may involve the
25 maintenance or repair of equipment that is located underground;
26 and

27 d. Any method to improve the reporting and restoration of
28 street light outages, which the electric public utility determines is
29 reasonable.

30

31 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

32

33

34

STATEMENT

35

36 This bill directs every electric public utility (utility) doing
37 business in New Jersey, upon the direction of the Board of Public
38 Utilities (BPU), to prepare and file with the BPU, a street light
39 outage plan within the utility's service territory. The plan is to be
40 designed for the provision of reasonably prompt reporting of street
41 light outages, and may include the following:

42 (1) Methods to inform and educate the public and local officials
43 concerning utilization of the utility's existing street light outage
44 reporting system;

45 (2) Methods to identify and monitor street light outages in areas
46 where outages may occur with increased frequency due to human
47 interference, or where street light outages may pose an increased

1 risk to public safety. A utility is to engage local elected officials
2 and law enforcement as appropriate;

3 (3) Information regarding factors which contribute to the cost,
4 timing, and manner of work required for street light outage
5 restoration, such as whether restoration may involve the
6 maintenance or repair of equipment that is located underground;
7 and

8 (4) Any method to improve the reporting and restoration of street
9 light outages, which the utility determines is reasonable.

ASSEMBLY TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3739

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 5, 2015

The Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3739.

This bill directs every electric public utility (utility) doing business in New Jersey, upon the direction of the Board of Public Utilities (BPU), to prepare and file with the BPU, a street light outage plan within the utility's service territory. The plan is to be designed for the provision of reasonably prompt reporting of street light outages, and may include the following:

(1) Methods to inform and educate the public and local officials concerning utilization of the utility's existing street light outage reporting system;

(2) Methods to identify and monitor street light outages in areas where outages may occur with increased frequency due to human interference, or where street light outages may pose an increased risk to public safety. A utility is to engage local elected officials and law enforcement as appropriate;

(3) Information regarding factors which contribute to the cost, timing, and manner of work required for street light outage restoration, such as whether restoration may involve the maintenance or repair of equipment that is located underground; and

(4) Any method to improve the reporting and restoration of street light outages, which the utility determines is reasonable.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 3739 is identical to Senate Bill No. 1349 (1R), which was also reported by the committee on this date.