



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB3632

Introduced 2/17/2023, by Rep. Sonya M. Harper

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

220 ILCS 5/8-406.3 new

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Creates the Disadvantaged Communities Protection Commission comprised of the Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that available energy sources appropriately benefit and do not inappropriately burden such communities. Specifies duties for the Commission. Provides that the Commission shall make a recommendation to the Governor and the energy company proposing an energy project if there are any current or potential threats or anticipated burdens resulting from a proposed energy project. Provides that the Commission will work with the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to establish and maintain a statewide advanced leak detection standard for all pipeline operators. Provides that this standard shall require pipeline operators to find and repair leaks on the operators' system, including those previously designated as nonhazardous. Provides that funding shall be made available for disadvantaged communities to build better infrastructure to safeguard against gas pipeline adversities.

LRB103 30496 AMQ 56929 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by adding
5 Section 8-406.3 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 5/8-406.3 new)

7 Sec. 8-406.3. Disadvantaged Communities Protection
8 Commission.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Commission" means the Disadvantaged Communities
11 Protection Commission created under subsection (b).

12 (b) For the protection of disadvantaged, vulnerable, or
13 marginalized communities in need of energy solutions
14 throughout this State, the Disadvantaged Communities
15 Protection Commission is formed, which shall be comprised of
16 the Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental
17 Protection Agency to ensure that available energy sources
18 appropriately benefit and do not inappropriately burden such
19 communities. The Commission shall jointly conduct:

20 (1) a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of the proposed
21 energy project, which shall include socioeconomic, public
22 health, and environmental risk factors in addition to
23 vulnerabilities that may affect the costs and benefits of

1 the proposed energy project; and

2 (2) an accounting of the social cost of greenhouse gases
3 and consideration of any unique economic, environmental,
4 and ecological impacts of the energy project on
5 disadvantaged, vulnerable, or marginalized communities.

6 The Commission shall advocate for such communities to ensure
7 that the energy project is net-beneficial as a whole. Further,
8 the Commission shall advocate for renewable energy options for
9 such communities, considering affordability, sustainability,
10 distributional impacts, and impacts on the affected
11 environment. The Commission's analysis shall also evaluate
12 rate estimates for energy options.

13 (c) The Commission shall make a recommendation to the
14 Governor and the energy company proposing an energy project if
15 there are any current or potential threats or anticipated
16 burdens resulting from a proposed energy project.

17 (d) The Commission shall work with the federal Pipeline
18 and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to establish and
19 maintain a statewide advanced leak detection standard for all
20 pipeline operators, including local distribution companies.
21 This standard shall require pipeline operators to find and
22 repair leaks on the operators' system, including those
23 previously designated as nonhazardous.

24 (e) Funding shall be made available for disadvantaged
25 communities to build better infrastructure to safeguard
26 against gas pipeline adversities.