Amendment No. 224

Senate Amendment to Senate Bill No. 256				(BDR 58-655)
Proposed by: Committee on Commerce and Labor				
Amendment Box: Replaces Amendment No. 109				
Resolves Conflicts wit	h: N/A			
Amends: Summary:	No Title: No	Preamble: No	Joint Sponsorsh	nip: No Digest: Yes
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Amend sec. 4, page "changes [.]: (a) For a public util	6, line 2, by deleting		-	r the date on which the
application is filed; and				
(b) For all other public utilities, not later than 240 days after the date on which the application				
is filed.".				
Amend sec. 4, page	6, by deleting lines 2	28 and 29 and inso	erting:	

S.B. No. 256—Revises certain provisions relating to regulation of public utilities.

Date: 4/11/2005

SH/KP

"the Commission, or within [180 days after the date on which the general rate application is filed with the Commission,] the period set forth in subsection 2, whichever".

Amend sec. 4, page 6, line 33, by deleting "[at least]" and inserting "at least".

Amend sec. 4, page 6, by deleting lines 36 and 37 and inserting:

"or before October 3, 2005, and at least once every 24 months thereafter.".

Amend sec. 4, page 6, by deleting lines 39 through 41 and inserting:

"counties shall file a general rate application on or before November 15, 2006, and at least once every 24 months thereafter.".

If this amendment is adopted, the Legislative

Counsel's Digest will be changed to read as follows:

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada to mail reporting forms to public utilities and other providers on or before June 1 of each year. The reporting forms are used by the utilities and providers to disclose information regarding gross operating revenue, and that information is used by the Commission to calculate the annual assessment levied on such revenue. (NRS 704.033, 704.035)

This bill requires the Commission to mail the reporting forms to the utilities and providers on or before June 15 of each year.

Existing law requires the Commission to hold consumer sessions concerning certain rate applications filed by public utilities. This requirement does not apply to rate applications where the utility's annual gross operating revenue will increase by no more than \$50,000 or 10 percent, whichever amount is less. (NRS 704.069)

Under this bill, the Commission will not have to hold consumer sessions for rate applications where the utility's annual gross operating revenue will increase by no more than \$100,000 or 10 percent, whichever amount is less.

Existing law allows the Commission to dispense with a hearing regarding certain changes in telephone rates where the utility's annual gross operating revenue will increase by no more than \$50,000 or 10 percent, whichever amount is less. (NRS 704.100)

Under this bill, the Commission may dispense with a hearing regarding certain changes in telephone rates where the utility's annual gross operating revenue will increase by no more than \$100,000 or 10 percent, whichever amount is less.

Existing law requires the Commission to approve or disapprove certain rate applications filed by public utilities within 180 days after the application is filed. (NRS 704.110)

Under this bill, the Commission is generally required to approve or disapprove rate applications filed by public utilities within 240 days after the application is filed. However, for certain public utilities that provide local telephone service, the period for approval or disapproval remains at 180 days.

Existing law requires certain electric utilities to file general rate applications at least once every 24 months. (NRS 704.110)

This bill establishes a specific schedule for those electric utilities to file general rate applications. An electric utility that primarily serves less densely populated counties must file a general rate application on or before October 3, 2005, and at least once every 24 months thereafter, and an electric utility that primarily serves densely populated counties must file a general rate application on or before November 15, 2006, and at least once every 24 months thereafter.

Existing law requires an electric utility using deferred accounting to file annual applications to clear its deferred accounts, unless certain conditions are met which authorize the electric utility to file a semiannual application. (NRS 704.187)

This bill establishes a specific schedule for those electric utilities to file their annual applications.

An electric utility that primarily serves less densely populated counties must file an annual application to clear its deferred accounts in December of each year, and an electric utility that

primarily serves densely populated counties must file an annual application to clear its deferred accounts in January of each year.

This bill also provides that an electric utility using deferred accounting may elect not to file an annual application to clear its deferred accounts if the net change in revenues necessary to clear its deferred accounts for the reported period is less than 2.5 percent of the total revenues generated from the electric utility's rates for purchased fuel and purchased power.

Finally, if an electric utility files an application to clear its deferred accounts and the electric utility proposes a substantial decrease in the base tariff energy rate most recently authorized by the Commission, this bill requires the Commission to consider information relating to rate design for the electric utility. This bill also authorizes the Commission to enter an order that adjusts the electric utility's rate design in that proceeding.