

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1182

Introduced by Assembly Member Calderon

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 321.6 of , *and to add Section 322.5 to*, the Public Utilities Code, relating to public utilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1182, as amended, Calderon. Public Utilities Commission: work plan access guide.

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission to develop, publish, and annually update an annual work plan access guide describing the scheduled ratemaking proceedings and other decisions that may be considered by the commission during the calendar year, and containing specific information regarding the ratemaking process and access to that process. Existing law requires the commission to develop a program to disseminate the information in the guide utilizing computer mailing lists to provide regular updates on the information to those members of the public and organizations which request that information.

This bill would ~~also~~ *rename the annual work plan access guide the annual work plan and would require the commission to post the information in the guide annual work plan on its Internet Web site. The bill would require the commission to determine the feasibility of submitting informal filings to the commission through electronic means, as described, and if determined to be feasible, to develop an implementation plan for submitting informal filings by electronic means within 6 months.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
2 *following:*

3 *(a) It is in the interest of the people of the state of California*
4 *that the Public Utilities Commission refrain from requiring*
5 *public utilities to deliver paper copies of information supplied to*
6 *the commission when that information can be made available to*
7 *the commission electronically.*

8 *(b) Allowing public utilities to make information requested by*
9 *the commission available electronically will help decrease the*
10 *costs of regulation by reducing the need to reproduce, on paper,*
11 *one or more copies of reports and other information for use by*
12 *the commission.*

13 *(c) It is in the interest of the state's economy that the*
14 *businesses that fuel that economy be allowed to interact with*
15 *government in the most efficient manner. Authorizing businesses*
16 *to supply information requested by regulatory agencies via the*
17 *Internet promotes that goal.*

18 ~~SECTION 1.~~

19 *SEC. 2. Section 321.6 of the Public Utilities Code is amended*
20 *to read:*

21 321.6. The commission shall develop, publish, and annually
22 update an annual work plan ~~access-guide~~ that describes in clear
23 detail the scheduled ratemaking proceedings and other decisions
24 that may be considered by the commission during the calendar
25 year. The ~~guide~~ plan shall include, but is not limited to,
26 information on how members of the public and ratepayers can
27 gain access to the commission's ratemaking process and
28 information regarding the specific matters to be decided. The
29 ~~guide~~ plan shall also include information on the operation of the
30 office of the public advisor and identify the names and telephone
31 numbers of those contact persons responsible for specific cases
32 and matters to be decided. The commission shall post the
33 ~~information in the guide on plan under the Official Documents~~
34 ~~area of its Internet Web site and shall develop a program to~~
35 disseminate the information in the ~~guide~~ plan utilizing computer

1 mailing lists to provide regular updates on the information to
2 those members of the public and organizations which request that
3 information. The annual work plan ~~access~~ guide shall be
4 transmitted to the Legislature between January 15 and February 1
5 of each year.

6 *SEC. 3. Section 322.5 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to*
7 *read:*

8 *322.5. The commission shall determine, as part of the*
9 *proceeding in Rulemaking 98-07-038 (Rulemaking for purposes*
10 *of Revising General Order 96-A Regarding Informal Filings at*
11 *the Commission) or any other appropriate proceeding, as*
12 *determined by the commission, the feasibility of submitting*
13 *informal filings to the commission through electronic means. If*
14 *determined to be feasible, the commission shall, within six*
15 *months, develop an implementation plan for submitting informal*
16 *filings by electronic means. For purposes of this section,*
17 *“electronic means” include electronic mail and electronic forms*
18 *developed or approved by the commission and submitted through*
19 *the commission’s Internet Web site.*