98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

SB3417

Introduced 2/14/2014, by Sen. Mike Jacobs

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

220 ILCS 5/8-406

from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 8-406

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Deletes language that provides that no construction shall commence on any new nuclear power plant to be located within the State, and no certificate of public convenience and necessity or other authorization shall be issued therefor by the Illinois Commerce Commission, until the Director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency finds that the United States Government, through its authorized agency, has identified and approved a demonstrable technology or means for the disposal of high level nuclear waste, or until such construction has been specifically approved by a statute enacted by the General Assembly. Deletes the definition of "high level nuclear waste". Effective immediately.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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1

AN ACT concerning regulation.

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

Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by changing
Section 8-406 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 5/8-406) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 8-406)

7 Sec. 8-406. Certificate of public convenience and 8 necessity.

9 (a) No public utility not owning any city or village franchise nor engaged in performing any public service or in 10 furnishing any product or commodity within this State as of 11 July 1, 1921 and not possessing a certificate of public 12 13 convenience and necessity from the Illinois Commerce 14 Commission, the State Public Utilities Commission or the Public Utilities Commission, at the time this amendatory Act of 1985 15 16 goes into effect, shall transact any business in this State 17 until it shall have obtained a certificate from the Commission that public convenience and necessity require the transaction 18 19 of such business.

20 (b) No public utility shall begin the construction of any 21 new plant, equipment, property or facility which is not in 22 substitution of any existing plant, equipment, property or 23 facility or any extension or alteration thereof or in addition

thereto, unless and until it shall have obtained from the 1 2 Commission a certificate that public convenience and necessity require such construction. Whenever after a hearing 3 the Commission determines that any new construction or 4 the 5 transaction of any business by a public utility will promote the public convenience and is necessary thereto, it shall have 6 the power to issue certificates of public convenience and 7 8 necessity. The Commission shall determine that proposed 9 construction will promote the public convenience and necessity 10 only if the utility demonstrates: (1) that the proposed 11 construction is necessary to provide adequate, reliable, and 12 efficient service to its customers and is the least-cost means of satisfying the service needs of its customers or that the 13 14 proposed construction will promote the development of an 15 effectively competitive electricity market that operates 16 efficiently, is equitable to all customers, and is the least 17 cost means of satisfying those objectives; (2) that the utility is capable of efficiently managing and supervising the 18 construction process and has taken sufficient action to ensure 19 20 adequate and efficient construction and supervision thereof; and (3) that the utility is capable of financing the proposed 21 22 construction without significant adverse financial 23 consequences for the utility or its customers.

(c) (Blank). After the effective date of this amendatory
Act of 1987, no construction shall commence on any new nuclear
power plant to be located within this State, and no certificate

of public convenience and necessity or other authorization 1 2 shall be issued therefor by the Commission, until the Director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency finds that the 3 United States Government, through its authorized agency, has 4 5 identified and approved a demonstrable technology or means for the disposal of high level nuclear waste, or until such 6 7 construction has been specifically approved by a 8 enacted by the General Assembly.

9 As used in this Section, "high level nuclear waste" means 10 those aqueous wastes resulting from the operation of the first 11 cycle of the solvent extraction system or equivalent and the 12 concentrated wastes of the subsequent extraction cycles or 13 equivalent in a facility for reprocessing irradiated reactor 14 fuel and shall include spent fuel assemblies prior to fuel 15 reprocessing.

(d) In making its determination, the Commission shall attach primary weight to the cost or cost savings to the customers of the utility. The Commission may consider any or all factors which will or may affect such cost or cost savings, including the public utility's engineering judgment regarding the materials used for construction.

(e) The Commission may issue a temporary certificate which shall remain in force not to exceed one year in cases of emergency, to assure maintenance of adequate service or to serve particular customers, without notice or hearing, pending the determination of an application for a certificate, and may by regulation exempt from the requirements of this Section temporary acts or operations for which the issuance of a certificate will not be required in the public interest.

A public utility shall not be required to obtain but may 4 5 apply for and obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to this Section with respect to any matter 6 7 as to which it has received the authorization or order of the 8 Commission under the Electric Supplier Act, and any such 9 authorization or order granted a public utility by the 10 Commission under that Act shall as between public utilities be 11 deemed to be, and shall have except as provided in that Act the 12 same force and effect as, a certificate of public convenience 13 and necessity issued pursuant to this Section.

No electric cooperative shall be made or shall become a party to or shall be entitled to be heard or to otherwise appear or participate in any proceeding initiated under this Section for authorization of power plant construction and as to matters as to which a remedy is available under The Electric Supplier Act.

(f) Such certificates may be altered or modified by the Commission, upon its own motion or upon application by the person or corporation affected. Unless exercised within a period of 2 years from the grant thereof authority conferred by a certificate of convenience and necessity issued by the Commission shall be null and void.

26 No certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be

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construed as granting a monopoly or an exclusive privilege,
 immunity or franchise.

(g) A public utility that undertakes any of the actions 3 described in items (1) through (3) of this subsection (q) or 4 5 that has obtained approval pursuant to Section 8-406.1 of this Act shall not be required to comply with the requirements of 6 7 this Section to the extent such requirements otherwise would apply. For purposes of this Section and Section 8-406.1 of this 8 9 Act, "high voltage electric service line" means an electric 10 line having a design voltage of 100,000 or more. For purposes 11 of this subsection (q), a public utility may do any of the 12 following:

(1) replace or upgrade any existing high voltage
electric service line and related facilities,
notwithstanding its length;

16 (2) relocate any existing high voltage electric
17 service line and related facilities, notwithstanding its
18 length, to accommodate construction or expansion of a
19 roadway or other transportation infrastructure; or

(3) construct a high voltage electric service line and related facilities that is constructed solely to serve a single customer's premises or to provide a generator interconnection to the public utility's transmission system and that will pass under or over the premises owned by the customer or generator to be served or under or over premises for which the customer or generator has secured

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1 the necessary right of way.

2 (Source: P.A. 95-700, eff. 11-9-07; 96-1348, eff. 7-28-10.)

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon4 becoming law.