

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1222

To amend the Federal Power Act to provide for reports relating to electric capacity resources of transmission organizations and the amendment of certain tariffs to address the procurement of electric capacity resources, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 6, 2015

Ms. MURKOWSKI introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Federal Power Act to provide for reports relating to electric capacity resources of transmission organizations and the amendment of certain tariffs to address the procurement of electric capacity resources, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Continuity of Electric
5 Capacity Resources Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DIVERSITY OF SUPPLY AND CONTINUITY OF ELEC-**
 2 **TRIC CAPACITY RESOURCES.**

3 Title II of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824
 4 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 224. DIVERSITY OF SUPPLY AND CONTINUITY OF**
 6 **ELECTRIC CAPACITY RESOURCES.**

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

8 “(1) BULK-POWER SYSTEM; TRANSMISSION OR-
 9 GANIZATION.—The terms ‘bulk-power system’ and
 10 ‘transmission organization’ have the meaning given
 11 the terms in section 215.

12 “(2) ELECTRIC CAPACITY RESOURCE.—The
 13 term ‘electric capacity resource’ means an electric
 14 generating resource, as measured by the maximum
 15 load-carrying ability of the resource, exclusive of sta-
 16 tion use and planned, unplanned, or other outage or
 17 derating.

18 “(3) REGIONAL RELIABILITY COORDINATOR.—
 19 The term ‘regional reliability coordinator’ has the
 20 meaning given the term ‘reliability coordinator’ (as
 21 defined by the Electric Reliability Organization).

22 “(b) ELECTRIC CAPACITY RESOURCES REPORT.—

23 “(1) NOTICE.—Not later than 14 days after the
 24 date of enactment of this section, the Commission
 25 shall submit to each transmission organization with
 26 a tariff on file with the Commission that includes

1 provisions addressing the procurement of electric ca-
2 pacity resources notice that the transmission organi-
3 zation is required to file with the Commission a re-
4 port in accordance with paragraph (2).

5 “(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after
6 the date on which a transmission organization re-
7 ceives a notice under paragraph (1), the trans-
8 mission organization shall submit to the Commission
9 a report that—

10 “(A)(i) identifies electric capacity resources
11 that are available to the transmission organiza-
12 tion as of the date of the report; and

13 “(ii) describes the fuel sources and oper-
14 ational characteristics of each electric capacity
15 resource identified under clause (i);

16 “(B) evaluates, using generally accepted
17 metrics, the financial health, viability, and pro-
18 jected remaining years of service of the avail-
19 able electric capacity resources identified under
20 subparagraph (A)(i);

21 “(C) identifies—

22 “(i) over the short- and long-term pe-
23 riods in the planning cycle of the trans-
24 mission organization, announced and pro-

jected retirements of the available electric capacity resources;

“(ii) the projected future needs of the transmission organization for electric capacity resources; and

“(iii) the availability of transmission facilities and transmission support services necessary to provide for the transmission organization reasonable assurances of essential reliability services, including adequate voltage support;

“(D) assesses the current and projected status of the reliability of the elements of the bulk-power system under the control of the transmission organization, over the short- and long-term periods in the planning cycle of the transmission organization (including the current and projected status of electric capacity resources), as determined by the regional reliability coordinator that has been designated by the Electric Reliability Organization to have oversight over the bulk-power system elements under the control of the transmission organization; and

1 “(E) prior to the submission of the report,
 2 has been made available to members of the
 3 transmission organization and to the public for
 4 comment.

5 “(c) TARIFF AMENDMENTS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
 7 after the date on which the Commission receives a
 8 report submitted under subsection (b), the trans-
 9 mission organization that submitted the report shall
 10 file with the Commission—

11 “(A) 1 or more tariff amendments that
 12 would achieve each of the objectives described
 13 in paragraph (2) with respect to the trans-
 14 mission organization; and

15 “(B) supporting information that dem-
 16 onstrates the manner in which the amendments
 17 would achieve each of those objectives, taking
 18 into account the report submitted under sub-
 19 section (b)(2).

20 “(2) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives referred to
 21 in paragraph (1) are the following:

22 “(A) A diverse generation portfolio and the
 23 availability of transmission facilities and trans-
 24 mission support services necessary to provide
 25 reasonable assurances of a continuous supply of

electricity for customers of the transmission organization at the proper voltage and frequency.

“(B) An enhanced opportunity for self-supply of electric capacity resources by electric cooperatives, Federal power marketing agencies, and State utilities with a service obligation (as those terms are defined in section 217(a)), with the term ‘self-supply’ to be defined in the supporting information filed under paragraph (1).

“(C) A reasonable assurance of short- and long-term reliability, with the terms ‘short-term reliability’ and ‘long-term reliability’ to be defined by the applicable regional reliability coordinator referred to in subsection (b)(2)(D).

“(D) A reasonable likelihood of prudent investment in, and adequate fuel supply for, existing and future electric capacity resources over the short- and long-term periods in the planning cycle identified in the applicable report submitted under subsection (b)(2).”.

SEC. 3. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT UNDER AN AUTHORIZATION DURING WAR OR EMERGENCY.

Section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824a(c)) is amended—

1 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “(c) Dur-
2 ing” and inserting the following:

3 “(c) AUTHORIZATION DURING WAR OR EMER-
4 GENCY.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—During”; and

6 (2) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(2) NO LIABILITY.—Any person subject to an
8 order issued under this subsection shall not be liable
9 for actions carried out in compliance with the
10 order.”.

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