

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 2375

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to safety and inspection reporting requirements for certain utilities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 38, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 38.102 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.102. REPORT ON SAFETY PROCESSES AND INSPECTION.

(a) Not later than May 1, 2020 each utility owning or operating transmission or distribution assets shall complete a report, as prescribed by the Public Utility Commission of Texas, which includes, but is not limited to the following:

(1) a summary description of the utility's hazard recognition training program(s) for transmission and distribution facilities provided by the utility to its employees and contractors;

(2) a summary description of the training programs provided by the utility to its employees and contractors related to the National Electric Safety Code and United States Corps of Engineers regulations and design requirements for the construction of electric transmission and distribution lines.

A utility is required to update this report within 30 days of finalizing a change to any of the programs or plans described in (1) or (2).

(b) Not later than May 1st of each year, beginning on May 1, 2020,

1 each utility owning or operating transmission or distribution
2 assets shall complete a report, as prescribed by the Public Utility
3 Commission of Texas, which includes, but is not limited to the
4 following:

5 (1) percentage of transmission and/or distribution system
6 or assets inspected in the prior calendar year;

7 (2) percentage of transmission and/or distribution system
8 anticipated to be inspected in the current calendar year;

9 (3) number of incidents reported by employees or the public
10 regarding transmission or distribution assets that are not in
11 compliance with the National Electric Safety Code, in whatever
12 manner they are reported;

13 (4) if the utility is aware of any portion of its
14 transmission or distribution system that is not in compliance with
15 the National Electric Safety Code;

16 (5) if the utility is aware of a violation of any easement
17 agreements, including but not limited to easement agreements with
18 the Army Corps of Engineers; and

19 (6) the number of fatalities or injuries resulting from
20 transmission or distribution assets that are out of compliance with
21 the National Electric Safety Code or any easement agreement.

22 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.