87R17917 JXC-F

By:  Goldman, Herrero, Geren, Anchia, H.B. No. 14

     Craddick, et al.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee.

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

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

SUBCHAPTER F. TEXAS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY AND MAPPING COMMITTEE

Sec. 38.201.  TEXAS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY AND MAPPING COMMITTEE. (a) In this subchapter:

(1)  "Electricity supply chain" means:

(A)  facilities and methods used for producing, processing, or transporting natural gas for delivery to electric generation facilities; and

(B)  critical infrastructure necessary to maintain electricity service.

(2)  "Natural gas delivery system" means:

(A)  facilities and methods used for producing, processing, or transporting natural gas for delivery to distribution gas pipeline facilities; and

(B)  critical infrastructure necessary to maintain natural gas service.

(b)  The Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee is established to:

(1)  map this state's electricity supply chain and natural gas delivery system;

(2)  identify critical infrastructure sources in the electricity supply chain and natural gas delivery system;

(3)  establish best practices to prepare facilities that provide electric and natural gas service to maintain service in an extreme weather event and recommend oversight and compliance standards for those facilities; and

(4)  designate priority service needs to prepare for, respond to, and recover from an extreme weather event.

(c)  The committee is composed of:

(1)  the executive director of the commission;

(2)  the executive director of the Railroad Commission of Texas;

(3)  the president and the chief executive officer of the independent organization certified under Section 39.151 for the ERCOT power region; and

(4)  the chief of the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

(d)  Each member of the committee may designate a personal representative from the member's organization to represent the member on the committee. A member is responsible for the acts and omissions of the designee related to the designee's representation on the committee.

(e)  The executive director of the commission serves as the chair of the committee. The executive director of the Railroad Commission of Texas serves as vice chair of the committee.

Sec. 38.202.  ADMINISTRATION. (a) The committee shall meet at least once each calendar quarter at a time determined by the committee and at the call of the chair.

(b)  A member who is an ex officio member from a state agency shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses in carrying out committee responsibilities from money appropriated for that purpose in the agency's budget. Other members of the committee may receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses in carrying out committee responsibilities from money appropriated for that purpose.

(c)  The commission, the Railroad Commission of Texas, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management shall provide staff as necessary to assist the committee in carrying out the committee's duties and responsibilities.

(d)  The independent organization certified under Section 39.151 for the ERCOT power region shall provide staff as necessary to assist the committee in carrying out the committee's duties and responsibilities.

(e)  Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, the committee is subject to Chapters 2001, 551, and 552, Government Code.

Sec. 38.203.  POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE. (a) The committee shall:

(1)  map the state's electricity supply chain in order to designate priority electricity service needs during extreme weather events;

(2)  identify and designate the sources in the electricity supply chain necessary to operate critical infrastructure, as defined by Section 421.001, Government Code;

(3)  develop a communication system between critical infrastructure sources, the commission, and the independent organization certified under Section 39.151 for the ERCOT power region to ensure that electricity and natural gas supplies are prioritized to those sources during an extreme weather event; and

(4)  establish best practices to prepare facilities that provide electric and natural gas service to maintain service in an extreme weather event and recommend oversight and compliance standards for those facilities.

(b)  The commission shall:

(1)  create and maintain a database identifying critical infrastructure sources with priority electricity needs to be used during an extreme weather event; and

(2)  update the database at least once each year.

(c)  The information maintained in the database is confidential under Section 418.181, Government Code, and not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code.

Sec. 38.204.  ELECTRIC SUPPLY MAPPING REPORT. (a) Not later than January 1, 2022, the committee shall submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the legislature on the activities and findings of the committee. The report must:

(1)  provide an overview of the committee's findings regarding mapping the electricity supply chain and identifying sources necessary to operate critical infrastructure;

(2)  recommend a clear and thorough communication system for the commission, the Railroad Commission of Texas, the Texas Division of Emergency Management, and the independent organization certified under Section 39.151 for the ERCOT power region and critical infrastructure sources in this state to ensure that electricity supply is prioritized to those sources during extreme weather events; and

(3)  include a list of the established best practices and recommended oversight and compliance standards adopted under Section 38.203(a)(4).

(b)  The report is public information except for portions considered confidential under Chapter 552, Government Code, or other state or federal law.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.