
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

- Removes the requirement that the Public Utilities Commission office be open during specific business hours.
- Allows the Power Siting Board (PSB) to obtain the services of outside experts and fund the expense through certificate or amendment application fees imposed under existing law.

Hours of operation

(R.C. 4901.10)

The bill removes the requirement that the office of the Public Utilities Commission be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the result that the office must be open simply “throughout the year, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays excepted.”

PSB contract for expert or analyst

(R.C. 4906.02)

The bill allows the Power Siting Board (PSB) to contract with experts or analysts (other than employees of the Environmental Protection Agency or Departments of Natural Resources, Agriculture, Health, or Development already called temporarily to provide assistance to Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission) for the purposes of carrying out PSB’s powers and duties under current law. Any such expert or analyst must be compensated from the PSB certificate application fee, or if necessary, supplemental application fees, assessed under existing law.⁵⁸

⁵⁸ R.C. 4906.06, not in the bill.