

Bill No. 17 of 1948.

A BILL TO AMEND THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

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NOTE

This Bill amends *The Public Utilities Act*.

A new subsection (4a) is added to section 22. Section 22 deals with what evidence the Board is entitled to hear. The new subsection provides that the Board may accept and act upon evidence given before the Natural Gas Utilities Board. This of course merely empowers the Board of Public Utility Commissioners to use evidence which it has heard in its capacity as the Natural Gas Utilities Board.

Section 66 is amended by adding certain words to paragraph (a). These words give the Board power to provide equitable schedules of rates based upon all of the costs between the customer's burner tip and the well-head of the various gas wells in Turner Valley. It enables the Board to fix the rate or rates to be charged to any ultimate consumer or class of consumers.

Under Part IV of the Act when a local authority desires to borrow money by way of debenture or other security, it must make application to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners for permission to do so. Section 103 requires such application to the Board to be made in the case of a city, town or village prior to or forthwith after the first reading of the by-law providing for the loan, and prohibits further action upon the by-law until the authorization of the Board has been obtained.

In the case of some cities, the charter requires that a by-law cannot be debated until its second reading, and it is accordingly impossible for such cities to submit a by-law to the Board which has been approved after debate by council. As long as the by-law is submitted to the Board for approval before it has been finally passed and before it is submitted to a vote, it is considered that the needs of this section have been met.

Accordingly the Bill changes the reference from the "first" reading to the "second" reading.

W. S. GRAY,  
*Legislative Counsel.*

*(This note does not form any part of the Bill but is offered in explanation of its provisions.)*

# BILL

No. 17 of 1948.

An Act to amend The Public Utilities Act.

(Assented to \_\_\_\_\_, 1948.)

**H**IS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

**1.** *The Public Utilities Act*, being chapter 28 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1942, is hereby amended as to section 22 by adding immediately after subsection (4) thereof, the following new subsection:

“(4a) The Board may on notice to all parties interested, accept and act upon any evidence heretofore or hereafter given before or otherwise obtained by the Natural Gas Utilities Board appointed under *The Natural Gas Utilities Act*.”.

**2.** The said Act is further amended as to section 66 by adding immediately at the end of paragraph (a) thereof the words “and in fixing the rate or rates to be charged to any ultimate consumer or class of consumers in any case where the proprietor supplying the consumer or class purchases the commodity or service so supplied from another proprietor either as defined in this Act or as defined in *The Natural Gas Utilities Act*, may treat the price paid therefor as an average price only and may take into account the effect of the load factor and all other consumption characteristics of the consumer or class on the costs of any or all proprietors as so defined who deal with the said commodity or service;”.

**3.** The said Act is further amended as to section 103 by striking out the word “first”, where the same occurs in subsection (1) thereof, and by substituting therefor the word “second”.

**4.** This Act shall come into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

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FIFTH SESSION  
TENTH LEGISLATURE  
12 GEORGE VI  
1948

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**BILL**  
An Act to amend The Public Utilities  
Act.

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Received and read the

First time .....

Second time .....

Third time .....

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HON. MR. GERHART.

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EDMONTON:  
A. Shnitka, King's Printer  
1948