



# **87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session PUCT Status**

March 2025

# Introduction

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This document summarizes the PUCT's progress in implementing statutory requirements that affect the organization and arise from legislation adopted by the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislature in 2021.

## Contact Info:

### Jess Heck

Director, Governmental Relations  
512-936-7069  
[Jess.heck@puc.texas.gov](mailto:Jess.heck@puc.texas.gov)

### Brooke Camet

Deputy Director, Governmental Relations  
512-936-7337  
[Brooke.camet@puc.texas.gov](mailto:Brooke.camet@puc.texas.gov)



# Key Phrases

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## Proposal for Publication (PFP)

- A draft of a proposed rule that the Commission files on its website and publishes in the Texas Register to formally initiate a rulemaking proceeding.

## Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA)

- In 1975, the Texas Legislature enacted the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) and created the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to provide statewide regulation of the rates and services of electric and telecommunications utilities

## Texas Water Code (TWC)

- The Texas Water Code is the enabling statute that provides PUCT with authority to regulate the water and sewer services for the state of Texas.

## Project

- Commission staff opens a 'project' with a unique number on the agency information *interchange* platform on its website for different agency initiatives. Projects are opened to gather information and other input from interested persons for policy building initiatives, including rulemakings, and other initiatives undertaken by the Commission.

## Interchange

- Web-based application for filing documents in dockets before the PUCT.



# Latest Update

Last Updated:  
March 2025

Status	Bill, Author	Brief Description	Section of Code	Project No.	Latest Action	Industry
	<a href="#">HB 16</a> Rep. Hernandez Sen. Hancock	Regulation of certain retail electric products.	PURA §§39.110 and 39.112.	<a href="#">Project No. 51830</a>	16 TAC <a href="#">§25.43</a> , <a href="#">§25.471</a> , <a href="#">§25.475</a> , <a href="#">§25.479</a> , <a href="#">§25.498</a> and <a href="#">§25.499</a> effective 01/07/2022	Electric
	<a href="#">HB 1572</a> Rep. Craddick Sen. Springer	Rental and operation of electric generation equipment.	PURA §31.002 and §37.001	<a href="#">Project No. 52313</a>	16 TAC <a href="#">§24.3</a> and <a href="#">§25.5</a> Effective 06/01/2022	Water and Electric
	<a href="#">HB 2483</a> Rep. King Sen. Hancock	Permits TDUs to lease or own and operate temporary or long-lead time facilities to restore service and provide energy to distribution customers after a natural disaster	PURA §39.918	<a href="#">Project No. 53404</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.56</a> and <a href="#">§25.59</a> effective 01/08/2025.	Electric
	<a href="#">HB 2586</a> Rep. Thierry Sen. Hall	Requires PUCT to have an independent audit made of ERCOT each year, to be published on PUCT website and submitted to the Legislature	PURA §39.159	<a href="#">Project No. 52933</a>	Completed and published on the <a href="#">PUCT website.</a>	Electric
	<a href="#">HB 3648</a> Rep. Geren Sen. Hancock	Requires the PUCT and RRC to designate certain gas entities and facilities as critical during an energy emergency	Nature Resources Code §81.073 PURA §38.074	<a href="#">Project No. 52345</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.22</a> Effective 04/10/2024.	Electric

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Status	Bill, Author	Brief Description	Section of Code	Project No.	Latest Action	Industry
	<a href="#">HB 3853</a> Rep. Anderson Sen. Perry	Allows electric utilities to own or operate facilities providing middle-mile broadband services and removes references to broadband over power lines in PURA. Allows rate recovery for middle-mile infrastructure.	PURA §43.001, §43.002, §43.003, §43.051, §43.052, §43.053, §43.054, §43.101, §43.102, §43.103, §43.151 and §33.001.	<a href="#">Project No. 52845</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.218</a> effective 04/19/2022	Electric
	<a href="#">HB 4492</a> Rep. Paddie Sen. Hancock	Directed an investment from the Economic Stabilization Fund to cover ERCOT short pay amounts and repay that investment with interest and provided a mechanism for financing reliability deployment price adder charges and high ancillary services charges	PURA § 39.603 and §39.653	<a href="#">Docket No. 52321</a> <a href="#">Docket No. 52709</a> <a href="#">Docket No. 52322</a> <a href="#">Project No. 53710</a>	Proceeds have been distributed to active LSEs and Commission is monitoring proper usage of funds.	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 2</a> Sen. Hancock Rep. Paddie	Changed ERCOT Board from segment membership to 8 unaffiliated members selected by the selection committee	PURA §39.151	N/A	ERCOT Selection Committee appointed all 8 ERCOT Board Members starting in October through December 2021.	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 2</a> Sen. Hancock Rep. Paddie	Design permanent process for PUC approval of ERCOT rules	PURA §12.0521, §13.022, §39.151, §39.1513	<a href="#">Project No. 52301</a>	Staff hosted a stakeholder workshop on 03/10/2025. The archive can be found <a href="#">here</a> .	Electric

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Status	Bill, Author	Brief Description	Section of Code	Project No.	Latest Action	Industry
	<a href="#">SB 3</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Establishes an appropriate reliability standard in the ERCOT power region.	PURA §35.0021	<a href="#">Project No. 54584</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.508</a> effective 09/29/2024	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, § 1</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Creates a power outage alert system administered by TDEM with guidance from PUCT	Texas Government Code §411.301	<a href="#">Project No. 52287</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.57</a> Effective 06/15/2022	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §3</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Created Texas Energy Reliability Council and requires the PUCT to conduct rulemaking on weather preparation measures for providers of electric generation in ERCOT	Texas Government Code Chapter §418.305, §418.306, §418.307, and §418.310.	<a href="#">Project No. 51840</a> <a href="#">Project No. 53401</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.55</a> Effective 10/20/2022	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §4 &amp; §16</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Designated critical natural gas facilities and prioritize for continued service and power restoration during energy emergencies.	Natural Resources Code §81.073	<a href="#">Project No. 52345</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.22</a> Effective on 12/20/2021	Electric

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Status	Bill, Author	Brief Description	Section of Code	Project No.	Latest Action	Industry
	<a href="#">SB 3 §7</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Increased PUCT penalty authority to \$1 million a day for failing to weatherize	Natural Resources Code §86.222	<a href="#">Project No. 52312</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §22.246 AND §25.8</a> effective 03/15/2022	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §8</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Defined “critical care residential customer” and “critical load industrial customer”	PURA §17.002	<a href="#">Project No. 52345</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.57</a> Effective 12/20/2021	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §9</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Required TDUs and REPs to provide customers information about load shed procedures, application procedures for critical status, and electricity usage reduction during load shed	PURA §17.003	<a href="#">Project No. 51830</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.43, §25.471, §25.475, §25.479, §25.498 AND §25.499</a> Effective 01/05/2022	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §14</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Provided enhancements to wholesale market mechanisms to enhance ancillary services	PURA §35.004	<a href="#">Project No. 52373</a> <a href="#">Project No. 53298</a> <a href="#">Project No. 54585</a> <a href="#">Project No. 55845</a>	Market Redesign Phase II is currently underway. The Ancillary Services Study was completed in January 2025, it can be found <a href="#">here</a> .	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §17</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Created the Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee	PURA §38.201	<a href="#">Project No. 52404</a>	First Map completed on April 29, 2022. The committee is meeting biannually	Electric

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Status	Bill, Author	Brief Description	Section of Code	Project No.	Latest Action	Industry
	<a href="#">SB 3, §18</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Requires the creation of an emergency pricing program for ERCOT's wholesale electric market.	PURA §§39.159 and 39.160.	<a href="#">Project No. 54585</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.509</a> effective 12/20/2023.	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §24</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Prepare an annual Extreme Weather and Emergency Preparedness Report	PURA §186.007	<a href="#">Project No. 51841</a> <a href="#">Project No. 53385</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.53</a> Effective 03/19/2021	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 3, §30</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Paddie	Water customers protections including no late fees or disconnections for nonpayment during an extreme weather event	TWC §13.151	<a href="#">Project No. 52405</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §24.173</a> Effective 11/09/2022	Water
	<a href="#">SB 387</a> Sen. Schwertner Rep. Wilson  <a href="#">HB 3689</a> Sen. Gutierrez Rep. Cortez	Clarifies that in a water rate appeal, the Commission must ensure that every appealed rate is just and reasonable. Expands the Commission's appellate authority by allowing ratepayers to appeal water and sewer rates set by a municipally owned utility for ratepayers previously served by another retail public utility, in certain situations.	TWC §13.043(b), (b-4), and (j)	<a href="#">Project No. 54932</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §24.101</a> effective on 10/04/2023.	Water



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	<a href="#">SB 415</a> Sen. Hancock Rep. Holland	Clarify ownership or operation of energy storage by a Transmission and Distribution Utility allowing for contractual arrangements between a power generating company and a TDU.	PURA §35.151 and §35.153	N/A	Discussion draft and stakeholder discussion has taken place. Commission will adopt a rule in a future rulemaking proceeding.	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 1202</a> Sen. Hancock Rep. Paddie	Made clear that EV charging stations can provide charging services to their customers without incurring the regulatory jurisdiction imposed on electric utilities and retail electric providers	PURA §31.002, §37.001, and 37.002	<a href="#">Project No. 52313</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §24.3 and §25.5</a> Effective 06/01/2022	Water Electric
	<a href="#">HB 1484</a> Sen. Springer Rep. Metcalf	Allows an acquiring water and sewer utility to apply an existing tariff to the customers of an acquired utility.	TWC §13.3011	<a href="#">Project No. 53924</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §24.240</a> Effective 04/10/2024	Water
	<a href="#">SB 1876</a> Sen. Miles Rep. Oliverson	Added “end stage renal disease facility” to the list of health facilities prioritized in system restoration	PURA §38.072	<a href="#">Project No. 52345</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.57</a> Effective 12/20/2021	Electric
	<a href="#">SB 1281</a> Sen. Hancock Rep. King	Creates new CCN process exemptions for short lines near existing transmission facilities, require a cost-benefit analysis of consumer benefits as a consideration for granting a CCN for a transmission line proposed for economic reasons and require a biennial grid reliability assessment from ERCOT.	PURA §12.051, §12.053, and §12.060.	<a href="#">Project No. 53403</a>	<a href="#">16 TAC §25.101</a> Effective on 12/20/2022	Electric