

(H. B. 3308)

(No. 86)

(Approved July 30, 2007)

AN ACT

To add a new subsection (m) and redesignate the present subsection (m) and subsequent subsections of Section 6 of Act No. 83 of May 2, 1941, as amended known as the “Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority Act,” for the purpose of establishing by law the obligation of the Electric Power Authority to provide to all its customers free access through the official Internet website of said public corporation, to pay bills, examine the consumption history and verify the consumption pattern and for other purposes.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Through this Act, the obligation of the Electric Power Authority to provide to all its customers free access through the official Internet website of said public corporation, to pay bills, examine the consumption history and verify the consumption pattern is established by law.

It is deemed pertinent that all customers of the Electric Power Authority shall have free access to the official Internet website of said public corporation to obtain information related to their bill, such as the reading of the meter at the beginning and at the end of the billing period, dates and number of days comprised in the billing period, usage constant of the meter, the rates, the date of the next reading, as well as any other information that makes the verification of the reading easier. In this manner, the customers of the Electric Power Authority shall be duly informed and shall be able to make any claims or take any steps deemed pertinent promptly.

Upon being informed and having examined their consumption history and usage pattern, the customers of the Electric Power Authority shall be able to pay bills, all this for the purpose strengthening the rights of consumers and promoting the extension of the public policy of free access to the information that should exist in every public administration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- A new subsection (m) is hereby added and the present subsection (m) and subsequent subsections of Section 6 of Act No. 83 of May 2, 1941, as amended, are hereby redesignated to read as follows:

“Section 6.- Powers

The Authority is hereby created for the purpose of conserving, developing and utilizing, and aiding in the conservation, development and utilization of water and energy resources of Puerto Rico, for the purpose of making available to the inhabitants of the Commonwealth, in the widest economic manner; the benefits thereof, and by this means to promote the general welfare and increase commerce and prosperity; and the Authority is granted and shall have and may exercise all rights and powers necessary or convenient to carry out the aforesaid purposes, including (but without limiting the generality of the foregoing) the following:

- (a) ...
- (1) to determine, fix, alter, charge, and collect reasonable rates, fees, rentals, and other charges for the use of the facilities of the Authority, or for the services, electric energy or other commodities sold, rendered or furnished by the Authority, in the conservation, development, improvement, extension, repair, maintenance, and operation of its facilities and properties for the payment of the principal and interest on its bonds, and for

fulfilling the terms and provisions of such covenants as may be made with or for the benefit of, the purchasers or holders of any bonds of the Authority; It is likewise provided, that in fixing rates, fees, rentals, and other charges for electric energy, the Authority shall take into account that these factors promote the use of electric energy in the broadest and most varied manner that is financially feasible.

...

- (m) to provide free access to the official Internet website of the Authority to all of its customers, so that they may obtain information related to their bill, such as the reading of the meter at the beginning and at the end of the billing period, dates and number of days comprised in the billing period, and usage constant of the meter, the rates, the date of the next reading, as well as any other information that makes the verification of the reading easier, and to pay bills, examine the consumption history and the usage pattern. The Executive Director shall adopt any necessary norms, rules or regulations to comply with the purposes consigned in this subsection and to guarantee the confidentiality of the accounts of every natural or juridical person.
- (n) to appoint such officers, agents and employees and vest them with such powers and duties, and to fix, change, and pay such compensation for their services as the Authority may determine.
- (o) ...
- (p) ...
- (q) ...

- (r) ...
- (s) ...
- (t) ...
- (u) ...
- (v) ...”

Section 2.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 86 (H.B. 3308) of the 5th Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to add a new subsection (m) and redesignate the present subsection (m) and subsequent subsections of Section 6 of Act No. 83 of May 2, 1941, as amended known as the “Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority Act,” for the purpose of establishing by law the obligation of the Electric Power Authority to provide to all its customers free access through the official Internet website of said public corporation, to pay bills, examine the consumption history and verify the consumption pattern and for other purposes,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 15th of November of 2007.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director