

SECTION 8: LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Updates on 2022 Legislation

In 2022, multiple pieces of legislation were enacted directing PURA to participate in or complete a number of tasks by certain dates. Table 11 below summarizes each of these bill's requirement(s) of PURA, the progress made since their passage, and any next steps planned.

Table 11: 2022 Legislation Relevant to PURA

Act	Title	Tasks Assigned to PURA	Effective Date	Progress	Next Steps
Public Act 22-08	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY HYDROGEN POWER	Directs the Chairman of PURA, or her designee, to participate in a Task Force to study hydrogen-fueled energy in the state's economy and energy infrastructure.	5/23/2022	PURA has been an active participant in the Task Force, serving as the co-chair of the Policy & Workforce Development Working Group with DEEP.	The Task Force submitted its report by the statutory due date of January 15, 2023
Public Act 22-29	AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS IN THE ACQUISITION OF WATER COMPANIES	If PURA, in consultation with the Department of Public Health (DPH), determines that the costs to acquire and improve a water company are necessary and reasonable, it must order the water company to be acquired by the most suitable public or private entity.	10/1/2022	PURA will implement these requirements when presented with the relevant conditions.	PURA will implement these requirements when presented with the relevant conditions.

Act	Title	Tasks Assigned to PURA	Effective Date	Progress	Next Steps
Public Act 22-55	AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS AND ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM RELIABILITY.	Requires PURA to direct the EDCs to each submit up to three proposals for an energy storage pilot program no later than January 1, 2023. PURA shall approve or modify an EDC’s proposal if it concludes that investment in energy storage systems under the proposal is reasonable, prudent, and provides value to ratepayers. Requires, rather than allows, PURA to authorize EDCs to recover their prudently incurred costs and investments for these systems, but PURA must do so only through a contested case during the company’s next rate case.	10/1/2022	PURA initiated Docket No. 22-06-05 on June 8, 2022 to design the framework through which the EDCs will submit energy storage proposals to PURA. On September 14, 2022, PURA issued an Interim Decision formalizing that framework. In December 2022 the EDCs each submitted three proposals.	The Authority is in the process of evaluating the projects submitted by the EDCs. A full procedural schedule for this proceeding is forthcoming.
Special Act 22-11	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP	Directs the Chairman of PURA, or her designee to participate in a working group to study and make recommendations related to solid waste management in the state. PURA was further tasked with specifically studying the potential pricing of electricity generated by Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facilities and potential contract structures to support WTE electricity purchases and sales.	5/24/2022	PURA initiated Docket No. 22-10-07 to investigate potential WTE electricity pricing and contract structures. The Authority issued its findings in a Proposed Report on Jan. 10, 2023.	PURA is reviewing Written Comments submitted by docket Participants and stakeholders for consideration in the Final Report. The Final Report is expected to be issued and transmitted to the state legislature’s solid waste working group on February 13, 2023.

Act	Title	Tasks Assigned to PURA	Effective Date	Progress	Next Steps
Public Act 22-14	AN ACT CONCERNING CLEAN ENERGY TARIFF PROGRAMS	Expanded the program caps and maximum project sizes for both NRES and SCEF. Also increased the percentage of participation required from LMI customers in SCEF. Also requires the Authority to monitor the competitiveness of any procurements authorized by Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-244z(c) (1)(A) and allows it to adjust the annual purchase amount within a larger range to maintain competitiveness. Any megawatts within that expanded range not allocated in any given year shall roll into the next year's available megawatts.	10/1/2022	PURA opened its annual review of the Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions (NRES) Program in Docket No. 22-08-03 on July 14, 2022, and indicated that it would address the changes to the tariff programs implemented by Public Act 22-14. On November 9, 2022, PURA issued a Decision in that docket that concluded that utilizing the full megawatt capacity authorized by Public Act 22-14 was appropriate, and that any unused capacity should be rolled over to the medium and large zero emission projects in the subsequent year.	These changes will be implemented in the 2023 Program Year.
Special Act 22-23	AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAMMING OPERATIONS	Requires PURA to conduct a study regarding the operations of certified third-party nonprofit organizations responsible for community access operations and facilities. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, a review of community access operations and current funding structures for both community access organizations' operational and capital needs.	5/31/2022	PURA initiated Docket No. 22-06-26 on June 29, 2022 to prepare a study of the operations of certified third-party nonprofit organizations responsible for community access operations and facilities.	The Authority has issued interrogatories and requested written comments from stakeholders. Before submitting its report to the Energy & Technology Committee on or before December 15, 2023, the Authority will hold a Technical Meeting and will issue a draft report.

Act	Title	Tasks Assigned to PURA	Effective Date	Progress	Next Steps
Public Act 22-20	AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS TO GAS PIPELINE PROCESSES	Expands PURA's authority over certain gas entities and aligns it with federal standards. Specifically, if there is an immediate, life-threatening hazard resulting from a willful violation of the Call Before You Dig laws or their related regulations, PURA's commissioners must immediately notify the entity responsible for the project about the hazard and violation.	10/1/2022	PURA will implement these requirements when presented with the relevant conditions.	PURA will implement these requirements when presented with the relevant conditions.

PURA Annual Reports to the General Assembly

Over the years, the State legislature has tasked PURA with providing annual reports to the General Assembly on various topics. Links to the final reports for 2022 are available in Table 12 below.

Table 12: 2022 PURA Reports to the State Legislature

Report Title	Codifying Act	Docket Number	Submission Date	Due Date
2022 PURA Report to the General Assembly Regarding the Electric Efficiency Partners Program	Public Act 07-242	21-12-08	2/9/2022	2/15/2022
2022 PURA Report to the General Assembly Regarding the State of Electric Competition	Public Act 17-64	22-11-01	3/24/2022	4/1/2022
2022 PURA Report to the General Assembly Concerning Lost and Unaccounted for Gas	Public Act 14-152	22-01-14	6/22/2022	7/1/2022

Report Title	Codifying Act	Docket Number	Submission Date	Due Date
2022 PURA Review of Connecticut Public Service Company Emergency Response Plans	Public Act 12-148	22-02-10	8/31/2022	9/1/2022
2022 PURA Report to the General Assembly on Electric Distribution Company System Reliability	Public Act 98-28	22-08-16	12/21/2022	1/1/2023