

Date:

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**ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 965, L.D. 1473, “An Act to Require Utilities to Monitor Meters for Natural Gas Leaks”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act to Require Gas Utilities to Assess for Natural Gas Leaks and to Require Reporting of Gas Leak Information'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §4713** is enacted to read:

**§4713. Assessment and report of natural gas leaks**

**1. Gas utilities to assess for natural gas leaks.** A gas utility shall assess its natural gas system for natural gas leaks, including every natural gas main and meter under its jurisdiction, as frequently as may be required by the commission by rule, but no less frequently than every 3 years.

**2. Gas utility; reporting.** Each gas utility shall provide reports to the commission at a frequency as established by the commission by rule regarding the number of natural gas leaks identified by the gas utility and the actions taken by the gas utility to address the natural gas leaks. The reports must protect individually identifiable customer information by omitting customer names and addresses, except that the reports must include street location information for the identified natural gas leaks. The commission shall post the reports received from gas utilities in accordance with this subsection on the commission's publicly accessible website.

**3. Commission; reporting.** No later than April 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the commission shall provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utility matters. The report must list each gas utility providing service in the State and the number of natural gas leaks identified by the gas utility in the prior calendar year by street location and must describe any action taken by the gas utility to address the natural gas leaks. The report must protect individually identifiable customer

1 information by omitting customer names and addresses. The commission shall post the  
2 reports required by this subsection on the commission's publicly accessible website.

3 **4. Compliance.** The commission shall periodically assess gas utility compliance with  
4 the requirements of subsections 1 and 2 at a frequency determined by the commission.

5 **5. Rules.** The commission may adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this section.  
6 Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5,  
7 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.'

8 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
9 number to read consecutively.

## 10 SUMMARY

11 This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It requires a gas utility to assess  
12 its natural gas system, including every natural gas main and meter under its jurisdiction, as  
13 frequently as may be required by the Public Utilities Commission by rule, but no less  
14 frequently than every 3 years. It requires gas utilities to provide reports to the commission  
15 at a frequency as established by the commission by rule, regarding the number of natural  
16 gas leaks identified by the gas utility, the street location for the natural gas leaks and the  
17 actions taken by the gas utility to address the natural gas leaks. It also requires the  
18 commission to file an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature  
19 having jurisdiction over utility matters regarding natural gas leaks reported by gas utilities  
20 and to include natural gas leak reports on its publicly accessible website. The commission  
21 is required to periodically assess gas utility compliance with the assessment and reporting  
22 requirements.

## 23 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

24 (See attached)