

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

PSC 2/28/2014

LRB Number	13-4259/1	Introduction Number	SB-625	Estimate Type	Original
Description Procedures for utility projects that require a permit from the Department of Natural Resources					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SB 625 may increase costs for applicants and for the PSC in reviewing utility construction projects. Under the proposed bill, DNR could only provide to the Commission information related to the statutes that it enforces. If there were environmental concerns or issues not related to a DNR permit, PSC would need to obtain expertise from existing staff or from outside parties, such as intervenors or consultants. Applicants would be charged for the cost of obtaining this information either through intervenor compensation or direct charges from the PSC.

SB 625 maintains certain utility application procedures that apply under current law, which should not affect any of the Commission's procedural processes. However, if the Commission cannot access information from DNR that would have been accessible in the past, the Commission may need to acquire that information from other sources, which could impact Commission review times.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

see assumption above.