



Annual Report 2024

New York State Senate
Standing Committee on

Energy & Telecommunications

SENATOR KEVIN S. PARKER

Chair

Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins
President Pro Tempore
NYS Senate Majority Leader

CHAIR
ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

COMMITTEES
BANKS
BUDGET AND REVENUE
FINANCE
INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY
RULES



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December 6, 2024

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Energy and Telecommunications for the 2024 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am honored to continue leading our efforts to address the critical matters within the Committee's jurisdiction.

During the 2024 session, the Committee convened seven times in-session and reported 108 bills. Additionally, we held joint meetings with the Committee on Finance to confer and provide advice and consent on several of the Governor's appointees and candidates requiring confirmation.

I extend my gratitude to my colleagues on the Committee for their dedication and contributions to our work this year. I also thank the Majority Conference for its continued support of the Committee's operations and for entrusting me to fulfill our collective responsibilities for the betterment of the State.

Yours in partnership

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Parker".

Kevin S. Parker
District 21, Brooklyn



2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Senator Kevin S. Parker,
Chairperson**

Committee Members

Senator Mario Mattera

Senator Brian Kavanagh

Senator Kristen Gonzalez

Senator George Borrello

Senator Michelle Hinchey

Senator John Mannion

Senator Thomas O'Mara

Senator Tim Kennedy

(Transition to Congress during session)

Committee Staff

Justin Chaires Committee Director

Mobeen Bhatti Principal Counsel

Grant Hart Associate Counsel

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Energy and Telecommunications has legislative oversight responsibilities for all issues concerning but not limited to the production, delivering, building, defining and elevation of energy and telecommunications this includes the assistance for residents providing information and advising as needed major government bodies inside the jurisdiction of this standing committee. Improving workforce readiness and aiding in the effort to meet the state and federal government short- and long-term energy goals.

During the Legislative session, the committee had a reported 108 bills referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills seventy-seven bills were moved out of the committee. Fifty were passed by the Senate. Fifteen passed in both houses. This work was conducted through a series of seven committee meetings. A list of all the bills that were reported to the committee is provided at the end of this report.

In addition to its regular meetings, the Committee held several joint hearings with Finance to address appointees from the Governor's office and work on any joint issues that need resolution with joint committee assistance.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following key bills were acted on by the committee in 2024:

- S489A (Comrie)- Requires NYSEERDA to develop a comprehensive electric vehicle fast charging station implementation plan.
- S8841 (Parker)- Requires the New York state energy research and development authority to develop recommendations regarding the establishment of microgrids.
- S9188 (Comrie)- Relates to information required to be published prior to a major rate change by a public gas or electric utility.
- S8372 (Parker)- Relates to utility intervenor reimbursement.
- S8626A (Mannion)- MANNION -- Relates to call centers for gas and electric corporations.
- S8575 (Ryan)- Enacts the “home utility weatherization jobs act.”
- S8402 (Parker)- Enacts the “go green schools act” to assist school districts in converting to renewable energy systems.

TWO HOUSE BILLS

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S00489A	Comrie	Establishes a comprehensive electric vehicle fast charging station implementation plan; requires the New York state energy and research development authority to further establish a "Fast Charge NY working group" to develop such plan; makes related provisions.	Substituted By A8869 - Vetoed Memorandum 41
S00628A	Comrie	Strengthens provisions relating to complaint handling procedures by the public service commission; requires certain response times.	Substituted By A1745A - Vetoed Memorandum 21
S01694B	Parker	Relates to establishing the New York state grid modernization commission; provides the commission shall conduct a study of research, development and demonstrations of electric grid modernization and shall issue such report to the state energy planning board for consideration in the state energy plan.	Substituted By A6253A - Vetoed Memorandum 34
S01851B	Hinchey	Permits the rendering of an estimated bill from a utility corporation or municipality under certain circumstances; requires each utility corporation and municipality within six months to submit to the commission a model procedure for the calculation of estimated bills that incorporates best practices and technology and accounts for any barriers to the use of actual meter readings.	Delivered to Governor
S02623A	Parker	Directs the department of state and the public service commission to study and report upon the prevalence of the disclosure by public utilities, cable television companies and cellular telephone service providers to credit reporting agencies of late payments and defaults in payment of fees and charges by consumers.	Vetoed Memorandum 53
S04305B	Parker	Directs the wireless service industry to report on current and future plans to pursue renewable energy technology to power macrocells; provides for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof.	Substituted By A4098B - Delivered to Governor
S06310	Hinchey	Requires a study on the national electric safety code line height standard for overhead utility lines and communication lines as such relate to the height of agricultural equipment and other heavy duty equipment.	Vetoed Memorandum 61

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S06710	Skoufis	Relates to false material statements related to a public utility. Eff. Date 09/25/2024	Chaptered 334
S07868A	May	Relates to advancing grid enhancement technologies; allows the department of public service to approve requests from distribution companies to develop grid enhancement technologies; requires distribution companies to submit a compliance filing report every 5 years.	Substituted By A9105A - Delivered to Governor
S08372	Parker	Relates to utility intervenor reimbursement to a participant for its reasonable costs of participation in any proceeding before the Public Service Commission (PSC).	Vetoed Memorandum 69
S08841	Parker	Requires the New York state energy research and development authority to develop recommendations regarding the establishment of microgrids.	Substituted By A9123 - Vetoed Memorandum 43
S08979	Persaud	Requires electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicle capable parking spaces to have handicap accessible spaces that are large enough to accommodate such wheelchair accessible electric vehicles, including but not limited to, vans and minivans.	Substituted By A7091 - Delivered to Governor

2024 SENATE ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S00314A	Salazar	Directs the New York state energy and development authority to establish a ride clean rebate program for electric assist bicycles and electric scooters; defines terms; provides a fifty percent rebate for eligible purchases.	Passed the Senate
S00378A	Parker	Relates to establishing a renewable hydrogen incentive and financing program to engage stakeholders to design and implement a competitive program for renewable hydrogen production for the purpose of meeting the state's clean energy and greenhouse emissions reductions targets.	Reported to Senate Finance
S00402A	Parker	Creates a revolving loan fund through the New York state energy research and development authority for the purpose of building renewable energy storage systems scaled to function as microgrids to power housing owned by the New York city housing authority.	Reported to Senate Finance
S00489A	Comrie	Establishes a comprehensive electric vehicle fast charging station implementation plan; requires the New York state energy and research development authority to further establish a "Fast Charge NY working group" to develop such plan; makes related provisions.	Substituted By A8869 - Vetoed Memorandum 41
S00628A	Comrie	Strengthens provisions relating to complaint handling procedures by the public service commission; requires certain response times.	Substituted By A1745A - Vetoed Memorandum 21
S00749B	Sepulveda	Requires at least one electric level three fast charging station available to the public for every five thousand New York state residents on a county level by December 31, 2026; provides for the siting of such charging stations; requires construction and development of such stations to comply with article 8 of the labor law including payment of the prevailing wage.	Senate Rules
S01199B	Parker	Relates to establishing minimum standards for payment plans for eligible customers; requires the public service commission to set standards for payment plans for certain customers including reasonableness of agreements and timelines for payment; establishes eligibility.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S01200B	Parker	Relates to requiring the establishment of automatic payment plans; requires utility companies headquartered in New York to establish a statewide program to provide eligible participants with affordable payment plans.	Passed the Senate
S01201C	Parker	Relates to establishing discount programs for veterans; provides that utilities, waterworks corporations, telephone corporations and cable television companies shall create discount programs that provide a 10 percent discount to veterans; defines terms.	Passed the Senate
S01203B	Parker	Establishes a moratorium prohibiting certain broadband service terminations and disconnections during a state disaster emergency.	Senate Rules
S01204	Parker	Relates to establishing discount programs for low-income senior citizens and individuals with a disability; provides that utilities, waterworks corporations, telephone corporations and cable television companies shall create discount programs that provide a 10 percent discount to low-income senior citizens and individuals with a disability; defines terms.	Senate Rules
S01303B	Parker	Directs the department of public service to adjust each utility corporation's residential fixed charge upon such corporation's filing with the department of an amendment of rate schedules, to recover only the fixed costs and operation and maintenance expenses directly related to metering, billing, service connections and the provision of customer service.	Passed the Senate
S01316A	Parker	Relates to requiring the establishment of utility customer arrears reporting; requires utilities to report to the public service commission on customers who are in arrears.	Passed the Senate
S01694B	Parker	Relates to establishing the New York state grid modernization commission; provides the commission shall conduct a study of research, development and demonstrations of electric grid modernization and shall issue such report to the state energy planning board for consideration in the state energy plan.	Substituted By A6253A - Vetoed Memorandum 34
S01791	Hinchey	Establishes the "small water utility transparency act"; requires the public service commission and the department of environmental conservation to conduct audits of certain private water companies; requires certain private water companies which are under certain investigations to file public updates on the status of compliance with such orders.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S01851B	Hinchey	Permits the rendering of an estimated bill from a utility corporation or municipality under certain circumstances; requires each utility corporation and municipality within six months to submit to the commission a model procedure for the calculation of estimated bills that incorporates best practices and technology and accounts for any barriers to the use of actual meter readings.	Delivered to Governor
S02030	Stec	Directs the public service commission in consultation with NYSERDA to conduct a full cost benefit analysis of the technical and economic feasibility of renewable energy systems in the state of New York and to compare such directly with other methods of electricity generation within nine months after the effective date and every four years thereafter.	Senate Energy and Telecommunications
S02432	Comrie	Requires consideration of evidence relating to the economic impact of major increases of rates or charges upon consumers and the areas affected by such increases of rates or charges prior to approval of any such rates or charges; establishes minimum data to be considered by the public service commission relating to such economic impact.	Passed the Senate
S02583B	Parker	Provides the New York power authority with the right of first offer and refusal for acquiring any renewable generation facility, renewable energy generation project and any power or energy created by a renewable generation facility or renewable energy generation project.	Reported to Senate Finance
S02623A	Parker	Directs the department of state and the public service commission to study and report upon the prevalence of the disclosure by public utilities, cable television companies and cellular telephone service providers to credit reporting agencies of late payments and defaults in payment of fees and charges by consumers.	Vetoed Memorandum 53
S02689C	Breslin	Enacts the "Renewable Capitol act"; requires the office of general services, in consultation with the power authority of the state of New York, to ensure that all operations that power, heat or cool the empire state plaza complex shall entirely use renewable energy systems; requires the office of general services to establish an advisory committee to advise the office of general services on the preparation, design and content of a plan for the use of renewable energy systems.	Reported to Senate Finance

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S02935D	Parker	Enacts the “just energy transition act”; requires a study of competitive options to facilitate the phase-out, replacement and redevelopment of New York state’s oldest and most-polluting fossil fueled generation facilities and their sites by the year 2030.	Passed the Senate
S02966A	Kavanagh	Requires certain watercraft, aircrafts, and trains to use clean energy, including ensuring such vehicles are zero-emissions; requires NYSERDA to study zero-emission commercial vehicles, the use of renewable energy in publicly funded airports, and the use of sustainable aviation fuel; requires NYSERDA to administer a grant program to flying schools and clubs that install charging infrastructure.	Reported to Senate Finance
S03082	Lanza	Requires gas and electric corporations to charge not-for-profit organized sports programs for youth residential rates for utilities.	Senate Rules
S03113A	Mannion	Establishes the zero-emission industrial trucks grant program to be administered by NYSERDA, to encourage the purchase and lease of zero-emission industrial trucks, class I to III.	Reported to Senate Finance
S04304	Parker	Provides that credits for excess electricity generated by customer-generators subject to net energy metering by an electric corporation or the Long Island power authority may be carried over indefinitely and used against any charges imposed by an electric corporation or the Long Island power authority when the customer-generator uses more electricity than such customer generates; provides for the accounting of credits once every 5 years and the electric corporation or Long Island power authority shall reimburse the customer-generator for the accumulated credits.	Passed the Senate
S04305B	Parker	Directs the wireless service industry to report on current and future plans to pursue renewable energy technology to power macrocells; provides for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof.	Substituted By A4098B - Delivered to Governor
S04579A	Comrie	Establishes a program to develop microgrids that are capable of providing an uninterrupted supply of power to one or more community outage assets through an extended electric distribution outage.	Senate Rules
S04876A	Stec	Relates to the amount of St. Lawrence county economic development power that may be used by the New York Power Authority to generate net earnings and authority-TMED contracts.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S04882	Mayer	Relates to strengthening of utility storm response and compliance by reviewing mitigating factors including but not limited to mitigating factors and the specifics surrounding the violation or violations.	Passed the Senate
S05853A	Krueger	Establishes the electric landscaping equipment rebate program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and reduce noise pollution by promoting the adoption of quieter, zero-emission landscaping equipment; provides for rebates at the point of sale for applicants purchasing or leasing certain equipment; provides for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof.	On Calendar 561 Opposite House
S05918C	Harckham	Requires corporations and municipalities to notify property owners prior to beginning services that may interfere with a property owner's ability to use, or access such owner's property; requires notice to include direct contact information for any subcontractor being used for such services; exempts cases where a natural or man-made disaster or state of emergency occurs.	Passed the Senate
S05974A	Parker	Relates to the municipal sustainable energy loan program; includes water efficiency improvements and resiliency improvements in the municipal sustainable energy loan program.	Passed the Senate
S05985	Sanders	Establishes a fuel cell incentive program to be managed by NYSERDA to encourage development of fuel cell generating systems.	Reported to Senate Finance
S06301	Gounardes	Requires distribution centers which are 50,000 sq. ft. or more to be equipped with electric vehicle charging stations as determined by the secretary of state and NYSERDA.	Passed the Senate
S06310	Hinchey	Requires a study on the national electric safety code line height standard for overhead utility lines and communication lines as such relate to the height of agricultural equipment and other heavy duty equipment.	Vetoed Memorandum 61
S06318A	Hinchey	Enacts the "cellular mapping act"; requires the public service commission to review cellular services within the state; requires the expansion of cellular services.	Passed the Senate
S06557A	Mayer	Requires electric corporations, gas corporations, steam corporations and water-works corporations to adopt the common equity ratio and rate of return on equity authorized by the public service commission unless such utility can successfully demonstrate that such authorized rates do not meet their capital and/or operating needs.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S06710	Skoufis	Relates to false material statements related to a public utility. Eff. Date 09/25/2024	Chaptered 334
S06803B	Gonzalez	Prohibits utility corporations from imposing late fees, interest, or penalties during an investigation by the commission; allows retroactive late fees, interest, or penalties if a determination is made in favor of such utility corporation; prohibits utility services from being terminated during an investigation by the commission; requires utility corporations to notify customers of investigations; requires notice to the general public.	Passed the Senate
S07109	Kennedy	Includes fuel-flexible linear generators which do not utilize a fossil fuel resource in the process of generating electricity as qualifying as renewable energy systems.	Enacting Clause Stricken
S07198A	Parker	Authorizes one or more individuals who are under a shared contract to opt-out of such contract without a fee, penalty or charge due to status as a domestic violence victim; prohibits the company from transferring any contractual or billing responsibility of such shared contract to any other account holders on such shared contract; prevents companies from prohibiting a person who has opted-out due to domestic violence status to enter into a new contract.	Passed the Senate
S07231A	Hoylman-Sigal	Directs the New York City Economic Development Corporation to immediately commence any proceedings, processes, stakeholder engagement, or capital projects necessary for the installation of shore power capability at the Manhattan Cruise Terminal; provides for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof.	Reported to Senate Finance
S07294	Hinchey	Enacts the "utility penalty adjustment"; adjusts utility penalties to account for inflation; increases such penalties and ties them to inflation after January 1, 2025.	Passed the Senate
S07336	Parker	Prohibits publicly owned treatment works from accepting wastewater associated with the exploration, delineation, development, or production of natural gas from high-volume hydraulic fracturing; provides exceptions.	Reported to Senate Finance
S07641	Mannion	Directs the canal corporation to create a chart to identify, map and model normal and flood water flows in the Oswego river basin and the Mohawk river basin and report on the completed chart by July 1, 2025; requires the updating of such chart every five years to account for any changes in the normal and flood water flows.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S07824	Rolison	Requires the public service commission hold public hearings on increases in utility rates, fees, rentals, or charges.	Reported to Senate Consumer Protection
S07868A	May	Relates to advancing grid enhancement technologies; allows the department of public service to approve requests from distribution companies to develop grid enhancement technologies; requires distribution companies to submit a compliance filing report every 5 years.	Substituted By A9105A - Delivered to Governor
S07982A	Cleare	Prohibits termination of electricity or heat service during forecasts of more than ninety-five degrees or less than thirty-two degrees.	Passed the Senate
S08188	Parker	Requires the New York state energy research and development authority conduct a study on Brooklyn College constructing a micro-grid to study the feasibility, efficiency, and energy saving costs if such a micro-grid was constructed on campus.	Passed the Senate
S08189A	Parker	Directs the New York state energy and research development authority to establish a pilot program to install a microgrid in Glenwood Houses; requires the authority to annually report on the results of such program and any recommendations for expansion.	Reported to Senate Finance
S08190	Parker	Requires the New York state energy research and development authority conduct a study on independent neighborhoods and homes in cities constructing micro-grids to study the feasibility, efficiency, and energy saving costs if such micro-grids were constructed.	Passed the Senate
S08212	Parker	Requires the New York state energy research and development authority conduct a study on the feasibility, storing and transferring of hydrogen energy to residential and commercial structures in cities and towns with a population greater than twenty thousand.	Passed the Senate
S08229	Kavanagh	Increases the statewide energy storage capacity to six gigawatts by the year 2030.	Senate Rules
S08372	Parker	Relates to utility intervenor reimbursement to a participant for its reasonable costs of participation in any proceeding before the Public Service Commission (PSC).	Vetoed Memorandum 69
S08402A	Parker	Enacts the "go green schools act" to assist school districts in converting to renewable energy sources as a primary source of energy; directs NYSERDA to conduct a study and make recommendations for such purpose.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S08455A	Parker	Enacts the “H2 energy scale up act”; authorizes the New York state energy research and development authority to administer a program to provide funds related to enabling clean hydrogen projects.	Reported to Senate Finance
S08504A	Harckham	Authorizes the New York state energy research and development authority to administer a program to provide grants or loans for the costs related to enabling switching residences with propane or fuel-oil heating systems to efficient electric heat pumps.	On Calendar 571 Opposite House
S08535	Gonzalez	Establishes the green affordable pre-electrification program to assist owners and tenants in residential properties in curing structural and building code defects which render the properties ineligible for climate change adaptation and resiliency project grants.	Passed the Senate
S08566	Mattera	Directs the New York state energy research and development authority to conduct a feasibility study and prepare a report on the benefits and implementation of geothermal energy.	Reported to Senate Finance
S08569	Mattera	Directs the New York state energy research and development authority to conduct a feasibility study and prepare a report on the benefits and implementation of carbon recapture.	Reported to Senate Finance
S08584	Parker	Requires the New York state energy and research development authority inspect and certify solar energy systems as fire safe and that the results of such inspection are provided to the public.	Reported to Senate Housing, Construction and Community Development
S08617	Parker	Directs the state energy planning board to conduct a study on time frames for replacing or upgrading battery energy storage systems at renewable energy facilities in preparation for clean energy storage and distribution across the state.	Passed the Senate
S08618A	Parker	Requires the office of renewable energy siting and electric transmission to establish a mapping, installation and efficiency plan for the purpose of building new electric transmission lines.	Reported to Senate Finance
S08841	Parker	Requires the New York state energy research and development authority to develop recommendations regarding the establishment of microgrids.	Substituted By A9123 - Vetoed Memorandum 43

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S08914A	Harckham	Prohibits local governments from prohibiting the construction, installation, or operation of carport-mounted solar energy systems with a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or less, in any non-residential zoning district or mixed commercial and residential zoning district of any such city, town or village, provided however, if the zoning district is a certified agricultural district the agricultural impacts of the projects shall be minimized to the extent practicable.	Reported to Senate Finance
S08979	Persaud	Requires electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicle capable parking spaces to have handicap accessible spaces that are large enough to accommodate such wheelchair accessible electric vehicles, including but not limited to, vans and minivans.	Substituted By A7091 - Delivered to Governor
S09005A	Gianaris	Enacts the “public renewables transparency act”; relates to the New York power authority’s conferral process; requires the conferral report be posted on the authority’s website; provides that the authority shall provide an option for stakeholders to submit comments remotely as well, and incorporate feedback from such sessions and written comments into the final draft of the strategic plan; makes related provisions.	Passed the Senate
S09052	Comrie	Clarifies how certain non-billing information regarding the delivery of water is disclosed to residents of cooperatives, condominiums or multi-family dwellings; requires water-works corporations to notify customers of their ability to receive non-billing related information.	Senate Rules
S09086	Parker	Requires the commissioner create rules, regulations, policies, and procedures for the creation of a resilient electric vehicle charging system pilot program to provide power through an extended outage.	Reported to Senate Finance



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**New York State Senate Standing Committee on
Energy & Telecommunications**