

clares that a public purpose will be served by providing a procedure to accomplish such conversion and that it is in the public interest to provide for such conversion by proceedings taken pursuant to this act.

(b) As used in this section, the following words and phrases (and any variants thereof) shall mean:

(1) "Communication service" means the transmission of intelligence by electrical means, including, but not limited to, telephone, telegraph, messenger-call, police, fire alarm and traffic control circuits and circuits for the transmission of standard television or radio signals.

(2) "Convert" or "conversion" means the removal of all or any part of any existing overhead electric or communication facilities and the replacement thereof with underground electric or communication facilities constructed at the same or different locations.

(3) "Electric service" means the distribution of electricity for heat, light or power.

(4) "Electric or communication facilities" means any works or improvements used or useful in providing electric or communication service, including, but not limited to poles, supports, tunnels, manholes, vaults, conduits, ducts, pipes, wires, conductors, guys, stubs, platforms, crossarms, braces, transformers, insulators, cut-outs, switches, capacitors, meters, communication circuits, appliances, attachments and appurtenances, other than those owned or used by, or provided for, any railroad or pipeline, and located upon or above the right-of-way of such railroad or pipeline. "Electric Facilities" shall not include any facilities used or intended to be used for the transmission of electric energy at nominal voltages in excess of 35,000 volts.

(5) "Overhead electric or communication facilities" means electric or communication facilities located, in whole or part, ~~beneath~~ ABOVE the surface of the ground.

(6) "Underground electric or communication facilities" means electric or communication facilities located, in whole or in part, beneath the surface of the ground.

(7) "Public agency" means any incorporated municipality, county, special district or public corporation (other than one conducting the proceedings) that provides electric or communication service to the public by means of electric or communication facilities.

(8) "Public utility" means any person or corporation that provides electric or communication facilities.

(c) Proceedings may be taken for the conversion of existing electric or communication facilities and the construction, reconstruction or relocation of any other electric or communications facilities which may be incidental thereto, in accordance with the provisions of this act.

(d) Proceedings for a conversion shall be initiated by petition. The petition shall: (1) generally prescribe the proposed conversion; (2) request that proceedings for such conversion be taken pursuant to this act; and (3) describe the proposed assessment district by: (i) specifying its exterior boundaries; or (ii) giving a description