

7-603.

(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL LICENSE GAS SUPPLIERS AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME AUTHORITY AS THE COMMISSION HAS UNDER § 7-507 OF THIS TITLE FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLIERS, INCLUDING THE AUTHORITY TO:

- (1) REVOKE OR SUSPEND A LICENSE;
- (2) IMPOSE A MORATORIUM, CIVIL PENALTY, OR OTHER REMEDY; OR
- (3) ORDER A REFUND FOR OR CREDIT TO A CUSTOMER.

(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT LICENSING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR GAS SUPPLIERS THAT PROTECT CONSUMERS ~~AND~~ THE PUBLIC INTEREST, AND THE COLLECTION OF ALL STATE AND LOCAL TAXES.

7-604.

(A) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2001, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT CONSUMER PROTECTION ORDERS OR REGULATIONS FOR GAS SUPPLIERS THAT:

- (1) PROTECT CONSUMERS FROM DISCRIMINATORY, UNFAIR, DECEPTIVE, AND ANTICOMPETITIVE ACTS AND PRACTICES IN THE MARKETING, SELLING, OR DISTRIBUTING OF NATURAL GAS;
- (2) PROVIDE FOR CONTRACTING, ENROLLMENT, AND BILLING PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES; AND
- (3) THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE CONSUMER.

(B) IN ADOPTING ORDERS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES DO NOT REQUIRE CONSISTENCY, THE COMMISSION SHALL:

- (1) PROVIDE CUSTOMERS WITH PROTECTIONS CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE PROTECTIONS PROVIDED TO RETAIL ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS; AND
- (2) IMPOSE APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS ON GAS SUPPLIERS THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED ON ELECTRICITY SUPPLIERS.

7-605.

(A) THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO:

- (1) AFFECT THE AUTHORITY OF THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ENFORCE VIOLATIONS OF TITLES 13 AND 14 OF THE COMMERCIAL LAW ARTICLE OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE STATE LAW OR REGULATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF GAS SUPPLIERS; OR
- (2) EXEMPT GAS COMPANIES AND GAS SUPPLIERS FROM OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATE OR FEDERAL CONSUMER PROTECTION AND ANTITRUST LAWS.