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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO UTILITIES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. (a) The public utilities commission shall  
2 explore, through its docket process, solutions to the problems  
3 posed by siting of above-ground electrical infrastructure in  
4 high-risk areas, including undergrounding and non-wires  
5 alternatives. The assessment shall include but not be limited  
6 to:

7           (1) The costs that possible solutions will incur and the  
8 potential rate and bill impact for customers on the  
9 island of Maui;

10          (2) The risk of damage to the above-ground lines from  
11 reasonably foreseeable high winds, wildfires, or other  
12 natural adverse events that have historically  
13 occurred;

14          (3) The risk of damage to the above-ground and underground  
15 lines from projected sea level rise in the area where  
16 lines are located; and



1 (4) The risk posed to the surrounding area from damage to  
2 the above-ground lines, including but not limited to:

3 (A) The potential for igniting wildfires; and

4 (B) Road closures, especially roads that provide  
5 access to critical infrastructure, such as  
6 hospitals.

7 (b) The public utilities commission shall submit a report  
8 of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
9 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
10 to the convening of the regular session of 2022. If relocating  
11 above-ground electric transmission lines and distribution lines  
12 underground in high risk areas on the island of Maui is deemed  
13 feasible, the public utilities commission shall include proposed  
14 plans and associated deadlines for this relocation in its report  
15 to the legislature.

16 (c) For purposes of this section, "high risk areas"  
17 includes areas susceptible to frequent high winds and wildfires  
18 or areas considered to be sea level rise exposure areas.

19 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Electrical Transmission Lines; Public Utilities Commission;  
Docket

**Description:**

Requires the public utilities commission to explore, through its docket process, solutions to the problems posed by siting of above-ground electrical infrastructure in high-risk areas. Requires the public utilities commission to submit a report to the legislature prior to the regular session of 2022. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

