



# Legislative Update

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## 2017-2018 Session

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## 2017 Acts

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**Act 53** – Resources Eligible for Renewable Resource Credits

**Act 58** – Foxconn (See Cindy's Presentation)

**Act 59** – Budget Bill/Broadband Grant Criteria & Funding

**Act 76** – Extensions of Credit by Electric Co-ops

**Act 136** – One-Call System Natural Gas and Hazmats  
Enforcement, and much, much more!

**Act 137** – Funding Lead Water Service Line Replacement



# Pending Bills

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## **AB 348 – Regulation of Wireless Facilities**

Passed by Assembly. Concurrence recommended by Senate committee.

## **AB 583 – Tax Exemption for Electric Co-ops & Telcos.**

Passed by Assembly. Passage of companion recommended by Senate committee.

## **AB 774 – PSC Review of MMSD Charges**

Passed by Assembly. Concurrence recommended by Senate committee.



# 2017 Act 53 – Resources Eligible for Renewable Resource Credits

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- Heat that is a byproduct of a manufacturing process qualifies as a renewable resource.
- Creates a renewable resource credit when used to generate electricity or when used for thermal energy that displaces electricity from a conventional source.



# 2017 Act 58 - Foxconn

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- Market Pricing for Foxconn
- Exemption from the CA requirement for a project that “is primarily to provide service to a new customer within an EITM Zone.”
- Exemption from the CPCN requirement for a transmission line relocation within an EITM Zone.



# 2017 Act 59 - Broadband

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- Changes criteria and funding related to the Broadband Expansion Grant Program and certain DOA broadband programs for schools.
- Prohibits DOT from charging any fee for a permit to construct, along, across, or within the limits of a highway, broadband infrastructure in areas that are served by fewer than 2 broadband providers.
- Prohibits DNR from requiring an appraisal or charging a fee for an easement granted for the construction of broadband infrastructure.



# 2017 Act 76 – Extensions of Credit by Electric Cooperatives

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- Expenses related to energy efficiency or conservation, electric safety, or emergency backup generation.
- Exemption from the Wisconsin Consumer Act (WCA).
- Subject to certain provisions derived from the WCA.
- Repayment through charges on member's electric account.
- Repayments may be required from future owners or tenants of the property.
- Notice requirements and registry with registrar.



## 2017 Act 136 – One-call system, water utility advertising, and much, much more!

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- One-Call System enforcement for **nat. gas and hazmats**.
- Expands exemption for **transmission line rebuilds**.
- Provides exemption from **county construction site erosion control and storm water management requirements**.
- Requires **water utility advertising** to provide a substantial benefit to ratepayers in order to be charged to ratepayers.
- Settlement agreements (**Cindy's Presentation**).
- Eliminates investor-owned utility **securities filing fee**.
- Transfers certain responsibilities from DOA to PSC.





# 2017 Act 136 – One-Call System

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## **One-Call System**

- Creation of a 7-person panel to receive and review complaints regarding violations concerning natural gas and hazmats.
- Panel may dismiss, mandate training, or refer to the PSC.
- After investigating, the PSC may mandate training or assess a forfeiture of up to \$25,000/violation, or up to \$500,000 for a single ongoing violation.
- Exemption for residential property owners and tenants, and persons engaged in agricultural activity.



# 2017 Act 137 – Lead Service Line Replacement

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## **Water Utilities**

- May provide grants and/or loans for the replacement of customer-side lead laterals.
- May use revenue collected through rates.
- Subject to several limitations and PSC approval.

## **Municipalities**

- Expands the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program to provide financing for customer-side lead laterals.
- Authorizes municipal/utility workforce to perform limited work on private property.



# 2017 AB 348 – Wireless Facilities

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Any follow-up questions from Anita's presentation?



# AB 583 – Tax Exemption for Electric Co-ops and Telcos

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Sales and use tax exemption for:

- Disaster relief services between electric co-ops or telcos.
- Applies when one “invokes a mutual aid agreement and at least 20 percent of the electrical or telecommunications system is nonoperational.”



# AB 774 – PSC Review of Complaints Regarding MMSD

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- Requires that, when the PSC investigates a complaint regarding the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), the PSC must make its determination without deference to MMSD.
- Requires PSC approval before MMSD may disconnect sewerage service with a city, village, town, sanitary district, or metropolitan sewerage district that contracts for service.