



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 468

LCO No. 5948



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:
(ET)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSTALLATION OF CLASS I
RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES ON STATE LAND NEAR PUBLIC
HIGHWAYS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "Class I renewable energy source" has the same meaning as provided
3 in section 16-1 of the general statutes.

4 (b) On or before January 1, 2020, the Commissioners of Energy and
5 Environmental Protection and Transportation, in consultation with the
6 Commissioner of Administrative Services, shall:

7 (1) Develop an inventory of all land owned by the state in proximity
8 to public highways that such commissioners determine is suitable for
9 the siting and installation of Class I renewable energy sources that are
10 derived from solar power, provided such inventory may also indicate
11 any such land the commissioners determine is suitable for the siting
12 and installation of Class I renewable energy sources that are not
13 derived from solar power. In developing such inventory, the
14 commissioners shall consider related practices, standards and

15 inventories or surveys developed in other states.

16 (2) Establish a setback distance from roadways that provides for
17 motorist safety for Class I renewable energy sources that are derived
18 from solar power, provided if the inventory developed pursuant to
19 subdivision (1) of this subsection includes any land the commissioners
20 determine is suitable for the siting and installation of Class I renewable
21 energy sources that are not derived from solar power, the
22 commissioners shall establish a setback distance from roadways that
23 provides for motorist safety for such Class I renewable energy sources
24 that are not derived from solar power.

25 (3) Develop standards and procedures for the siting of Class I
26 renewable energy sources that are derived from solar power on lands
27 owned by the state in proximity to public highways, provided if the
28 inventory developed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection
29 includes any land the commissioners determine is suitable for the
30 siting and installation of Class I renewable energy sources that are not
31 derived from solar power, the commissioners shall develop standards
32 and procedures for the siting of such Class I renewable energy sources
33 that are not derived from solar power.

34 (4) Develop and implement a plan to simultaneously (A) provide
35 any necessary financing to ensure the installation of Class I renewable
36 energy sources on land owned by the state in proximity to public
37 highways, and (B) maximize revenues to the state related to such
38 installation. Such plan shall indicate which financing model or models
39 the state will pursue to ensure the installation of Class I renewable
40 energy sources with a nameplate capacity rating of ten megawatts, in
41 the aggregate, on land owned by the state in proximity to public
42 highways each year for a total of ten years. In developing and
43 implementing such plan, the commissioners shall consider options that
44 include, but are not limited to, (i) the leasing of land owned by the
45 state in proximity to public highways to persons for the purpose of
46 installing and operating Class I renewable energy sources, and (ii) the

47 direct state ownership of Class I renewable energy sources installed on
48 land owned by the state in proximity to public highways.

49 (c) After January 1, 2020, the commissioners may, at their discretion,
50 from time to time revise or update the inventory developed pursuant
51 to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section.

52 (d) On or before January 1, 2020, and once every two years
53 thereafter, the commissioners shall report, in accordance with the
54 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, the status of each of
55 the items in subsection (b) of this section to the joint standing
56 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
57 relating to energy and transportation.

58 (e) On or before January 1, 2020, the Commissioners of Energy and
59 Environmental Protection and Transportation shall each adopt
60 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
61 implement the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

62 (f) On or before January 1, 2020, and annually thereafter for a total
63 of ten years, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
64 Protection shall issue a request for proposals pursuant to the financing
65 model or models indicated in the plan developed pursuant to
66 subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section. Such request for
67 proposals shall be in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and
68 any regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioners of Energy and Environmental Protection and Transportation to (1) develop an inventory of land owned by the state near highways that they determine is suitable for the installation of certain Class I renewable energy sources, (2) establish appropriate setback distances for such sources, (3) develop

and implement a plan concerning the financing and revenues related to such sources, and (4) adopt regulations, and require the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection to issue a request for proposals for such sources.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. NEEDLEMAN, 33rd Dist.; REP. GRESKO, 121st Dist.

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