



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Raised Bill No. 862

LCO No. 3152



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:

(ET)

AN ACT LIMITING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE RESIDENTIAL SOLAR INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND PREVENTING DISTRIBUTED ENERGY GENERATION SOLICITATIONS FROM SEGREGATING LARGE PROJECTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 16-245gg of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2021*):

4 (f) The purchase price of solar home renewable energy credits shall
5 be determined by the Connecticut Green Bank, and such purchase price
6 shall decline over time commensurate with the schedule of declining
7 performance-based incentives and expected performance-based
8 buydowns. Such purchase price shall not exceed the lesser of either (1)
9 the price of small zero-emission renewable energy credit projects for the
10 preceding year, or (2) five dollars less per renewable energy credit than
11 the alternative compliance payment pursuant to subsection (k) of
12 section 16-245. Any solar project located on a property that contains or
13 will contain any residence of a customer of an electric distribution
14 company that is determined to meet the Connecticut Green Bank criteria

15 as a residential dwelling for the residential solar investment program
16 shall not be eligible for small zero-emission renewable energy credits
17 pursuant to sections 16-244r, as amended by this act, and 16-244s or for
18 low-emission renewable energy credits pursuant to section 16-244t.
19 Whenever there is an exhaustion of funding in the residential solar
20 investment program, no solar project that meets the Connecticut Green
21 Bank criteria as a residential dwelling for the residential solar
22 investment program shall be eligible for small zero-emission renewable
23 energy credits pursuant to sections 16-244r, as amended by this act, and
24 16-244s or for low-emission renewable energy credits pursuant to
25 section 16-244t.

26 Sec. 2. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 16-244r of the general statutes
27 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
28 *1, 2021*):

29 (a) Commencing on January 1, 2012, and within the period
30 established in subsection (a) of section 16-244s, each electric distribution
31 company shall solicit and file with the Public Utilities Regulatory
32 Authority for its approval one or more long-term contracts with owners
33 or developers of Class I generation projects that emit no pollutants and
34 that are less than one thousand kilowatts in size, located on the customer
35 side of the revenue meter and serve the distribution system of the
36 electric distribution company. The authority may give a preference to
37 contracts for technologies manufactured, researched or developed in the
38 state. On or after July 1, 2021, the project size for any such solicitation
39 shall be based upon the total megawatts located on a single parcel of
40 land, or contiguous parcels under common ownership or a common
41 developer, regardless of metering infrastructure. No project may
42 subdivide parcels of land for the purpose of meeting the project size
43 requirements in this section.

44 (b) Solicitations conducted by the electric distribution company shall
45 be for the purchase of renewable energy credits produced by eligible
46 customer-sited generating projects over the duration of the long-term
47 contract. For purposes of this section, a long-term contract is a contract

48 for fifteen years. On or after July 1, 2021, in conducting any such
49 solicitation, each electric distribution company shall consult with the
50 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to impose
51 reasonable siting restrictions consistent with the policy goals outlined in
52 sections 22a-1, 22a-1a and 22a-422.

53 Sec. 3. Subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section
54 16-244z of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
55 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

56 (a) (1) (A) On or before September 1, 2018, the Public Utilities
57 Regulatory Authority shall initiate a proceeding to establish a
58 procurement plan for each electric distribution company pursuant to
59 this subsection and may give a preference to technologies
60 manufactured, researched or developed in the state, provided such
61 procurement plan is consistent with and contributes to the requirements
62 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with section 22a-
63 200a. Each electric distribution company shall develop such
64 procurement plan in consultation with the Department of Energy and
65 Environmental Protection and shall submit such procurement plan to
66 the authority not later than sixty days after the authority initiates the
67 proceeding pursuant to this subdivision, provided the department shall
68 submit the program requirements pursuant to subparagraph (C) of this
69 subdivision on or before July 1, 2019. The authority may require such
70 electric distribution companies to conduct separate solicitations
71 pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection for the resources in
72 subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) of said subdivision, including separate
73 solicitations based upon the size of such resources to allow for a
74 diversity of selected projects. On or after July 1, 2021, the project size for
75 any such solicitation shall be based upon the total megawatts located on
76 a single parcel of land, or contiguous parcels under common ownership
77 or a common developer, regardless of metering infrastructure. No
78 project may subdivide parcels of land for the purpose of meeting the
79 project size requirements in this section. On or after July 1, 2021, in
80 conducting any such solicitation, each electric distribution company
81 shall consult with the Department of Energy and Environmental

82 Protection to impose reasonable siting restrictions consistent with the
83 policy goals outlined in sections 22a-1, 22a-1a and 22a-422.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	16-245gg(f)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	16-244r(a) and (b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	16-244z(a)(1)(A)

Statement of Purpose:

To limit eligibility for the Residential Solar Investment Program, and to prevent renewable energy solicitations from segregating a large project into smaller projects.

[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.]