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H.607

Introduced by Representative McCormack of Burlington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Energy; public service; renewable generation; net metering

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to increase the cumulative capacity cap on net metering systems within a utility's service territory to 25 percent.

An act relating to increasing the cumulative net metering system cap

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 219a is amended to read:

§ 219a. SELF-GENERATION AND NET METERING

\* \* \*

(h)(1) An electric company:

(A) Shall make net metering available to any customer using a net metering system or group net metering system on a first-come, first-served basis until the cumulative output capacity of net metering systems equals ~~15~~ 25 percent of the distribution company's peak demand during 1996; or the peak demand during the most recent full calendar year, whichever is greater.

However, after reaching this cap, an electric company may continue to accept

1 solar net metering systems of 15 kW or less without prior Board approval. For  
2 other net metering systems, the Board may raise the ~~15~~ 25 percent cap on  
3 petition of an electric company. In determining whether to raise the cap, the  
4 Board shall consider the following:

5 (i) the costs and benefits of net metering systems already  
6 connected to the system;

7 (ii) the potential costs and benefits of exceeding the cap, including  
8 potential short- and long-term impacts on rates, distribution system costs and  
9 benefits, reliability, and diversification costs and benefits; and

10 (iii) the environmental benefits and costs.

11 (B) Shall allow net metering systems to be interconnected using a  
12 kilowatt-hour meter capable of registering the flow of electricity in two  
13 directions or such other comparably equipped meter that would otherwise be  
14 applicable to the customer's usage but for the use of net metering.

15 \* \* \*

16 (m)(1) A facility for the generation of electricity to be consumed primarily  
17 by the Military Department established under 3 V.S.A. § 212 and 20 V.S.A.  
18 § 361(a) or the National Guard as defined in 32 U.S.C. § 101(3), and installed  
19 on property of the Military Department or National Guard located in Vermont,  
20 shall be considered a net metering system for purposes of this section if it has a

1 capacity of 2.2 MW or less and meets the provisions of subdivisions  
2 (a)(6)(B)–(D) of this section.

3 (2) If the interconnecting electric company agrees, a solar facility or  
4 group of solar facilities for the generation of electricity, to be installed by or on  
5 behalf of one or more municipalities on a closed landfill, shall be considered a  
6 net metering system for purposes of this section if the facility or group of  
7 facilities has a total capacity of 5 MW or less and meets the provisions of  
8 subdivisions (a)(6)(B)–(D) of this section. The facilities or group of facilities  
9 may serve as a group net metering system that includes and is limited to each  
10 participating municipality. In this subdivision (2), “municipality” shall have  
11 the same meaning as under 24 V.S.A. § 4551.

12 (3) In addition to facilities authorized under subdivision (2) of this  
13 subsection, an interconnecting electric company may agree to one solar facility  
14 in its service territory for the generation of electricity to be installed and  
15 consumed primarily by a customer or group of customers, which shall be  
16 considered a net metering system for purposes of this section if:

17 (A) the facility has a total capacity of 5 MW or less and meets the  
18 provisions of subdivisions (a)(6)(B)–(D) of this section; and

19 (B) the interconnecting electric company does not undertake a pilot  
20 project under subsection (n) of this section.

