

TECHNICAL CORRECTION REGARDING MUNICIPAL SOLAR PROJECTS ON LANDFILLS

ISSUE:

Last year, statute was drafted to encourage solar to be used by municipalities on landfills. The language was drafted in such a way that it is being interpreted to mean that the utility must actually be installing the posts, panels, etc.

This ultimately makes it more challenging to meet the intent of the law, making it more difficult for municipalities to do these projects as they do not typically install posts, panels, etc. This is typically done by a developer or electrician or installer of solar.

To fix this, the following technical correction is suggested:

Current language:

In 30 VSA § 219a(m)(2):

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

Proposed Change – to insert the language in BOLD CAPITALS:

In 30 VSA § 219a(m)(2):

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