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H.676

Representative Yantachka of Charlotte moves that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 248(s) is amended to read:

(s) This subsection sets minimum setback requirements that shall apply to in-state ground-mounted solar electric generation facilities approved under this section, unless the facility is installed on a canopy constructed on an area primarily used for parking vehicles that is in existence or permitted on the date the application for the facility is filed.

\* \* \*

Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 248b is amended to read:

§ 248b. FEES; AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES; PARTICIPATION  
IN SITING PROCEEDINGS

(a) Establishment. This section establishes fees for the purpose of supporting the role of the Agency of Natural Resources (the Agency) in reviewing applications for in-state facilities under sections 248 and 248a of this title.

\* \* \*

(d) Electric and natural gas facilities. This subsection sets fees for applications under section 248 of this title.





1 up to 50 kW in capacity that are located on a working farm as farm is defined  
2 in 6 V.S.A. § 851. This application procedure is also applicable to net-  
3 metering systems of 50 kW or less that use other eligible technologies or that  
4 are wind net-metering systems not located on a working farm. This application  
5 procedure does not apply to hydroelectric facilities or roof-mounted  
6 photovoltaic net-metering systems.

7 \* \* \*

8 (e) On or before August 1, 2018, the Public Utility Commission shall  
9 conform the published version of the Rules described in this section to the  
10 amendments made in subsections (b) through (d) of this section. Provided  
11 such conformance is the only revision to the Rules, the rulemaking procedures  
12 of the Vermont Administrative Procedure Act shall not apply to the publication  
13 of this conformed version of the Rules. However, on publication, the  
14 Commission shall send a copy of the conformed version of the Rules to the  
15 Office of the Secretary of State and the Legislative Committee on  
16 Administrative Rules.

17 Sec. 4. 30 V.S.A. § 8010 is amended to read:

18 § 8010. SELF-GENERATION AND NET METERING

19 \* \* \*

1 (c) In accordance with this section, the Commission shall adopt and  
2 implement rules that govern the installation and operation of net metering  
3 systems.

4 \* \* \*

5 (3) The rules shall establish standards and procedures governing  
6 application for and issuance or revocation of a certificate of public good for net  
7 metering systems under the provisions of section 248 of this title. In  
8 establishing these standards and procedures:

9 (A) The rules may waive the requirements of section 248 of this title  
10 that are not applicable to net metering systems, including criteria that are  
11 generally applicable to public service companies as defined in this title.

12 (B) The rules may modify notice and hearing requirements of this  
13 title as the Commission considers appropriate.

14 (C) The rules shall seek to simplify the application and review  
15 process as appropriate, including simplifying:

16 (i) Providing a registration process, in lieu of filing an application,  
17 for solar net metering systems of 15 kW or less, wind net metering systems of  
18 15 kW or less that are located on a working farm as farm is defined in 6 V.S.A.  
19 § 851, and roof-mounted solar net metering systems regardless of size. The  
20 registration process also may apply to hydroelectric net metering systems.  
21 Under the registration process, a certificate of public good under section 248 of

1 this title shall be deemed issued unless the interconnecting retail provider  
2 submits, within a period to be prescribed in the rules, a letter raising  
3 interconnection issues to the Commission with a copy to the registrant.

4 (ii) Simplifying the application and review process to encourage  
5 group net metering systems when ~~the system is~~ at least 50 percent ~~owned by~~ of  
6 the customers who receive the bill credits for the electricity generated by the  
7 system are residential accounts.

8 (iii) Providing such other mechanisms to simplify the application  
9 and review process as the Commission determines are appropriate.

10 \* \* \*

11 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

12 This section and Secs. 3 and 4 shall take effect on passage. Secs. 1 and 2  
13 shall take effect on July 1, 2018.