

H.710

Introduced by Representatives Campbell of St. Johnsbury and James of  
Manchester

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Public service; utility companies; renewable energy programs;  
definitions; plant

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend the  
definition of “plant” to clarify when the Public Utility Commission would  
consider multiple energy-generating facilities to be a single facility. This bill  
would consider a plant with multiple energy-generating facilities to be a single  
facility if the facilities use the same electricity-generating technology and if the  
facilities are on the same parcel or contiguous parcels of land, unless an  
exception applies.

An act relating to defining electricity generating facilities

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

Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 8002 is amended to read:

§ 8002. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

\* \* \*

1           (18) “Plant” means an independent technical facility that generates  
2           electricity from renewable energy. ~~A group of facilities, such as wind turbines,~~  
3           ~~shall be considered one plant if the group is part of the same project and uses~~  
4           ~~common equipment and infrastructure such as roads, control facilities, and~~  
5           ~~connections to the electric grid. Common ownership, contiguity in time of~~  
6           ~~construction, and proximity of facilities to each other shall be relevant to~~  
7           ~~determining whether a group of facilities is part of the same project. Multiple~~  
8           ~~electricity-generating facilities, regardless of when each is constructed, shall be~~  
9           ~~considered one plant if the facilities use the same electricity-generating~~  
10          ~~technology and are located on the same parcel or contiguous parcels of land.~~  
11          Such facilities shall only be considered separate plants if they meet one of the  
12          following exceptions:

13                (A) Exception for individual net-metering and self-consumption.

14          Applies if the facilities:

15                    (i) are not located on the same parcel of land;

16                    (ii) are wired to offset consumption on separate billing meters; and

17                    (iii) supply different retail customers.

18                (B) Exception for multi-owner individual net-metering on the same  
19          parcel. Applies if the facilities:

20                    (i) are located on the same parcel of land where a common interest  
21          community is located;

3                    (C) Exception for colocation of renewable energy program facilities.  
4                    More than one facility may be located on the same parcel or contiguous parcels  
5                    with net-metering, Standard Offer Program facilities, or other Renewable  
6                    Energy Standard Tier II facilities when:

12 \* \* \*

(34) “Contiguous” means sharing a property boundary with another  
parcel of land or being adjacent to that parcel of land and the two parcels are  
separated only by a road, recreation path, railway line, stream, or river.

1           (35) “Electricity-generating technology” means a method or system  
2           used to convert energy from one form into electric power, including wind,  
3           hydropower or water, solar, or biomass.

4           (36) “Point of interconnection” means the point on the interconnecting  
5           utility’s existing distribution system to which a facility proposes to  
6           interconnect.

7           Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

8           This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.