

1 S.50

2 An act relating to increasing the size of solar net metering projects that
3 qualify for expedited registration

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

5 Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 8010 is amended to read:

6 § 8010. SELF-GENERATION AND NET METERING

7 * * *

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

11 * * *

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

16 * * *

17 (F) This subdivision (F) applies to an application for a net metering
18 system with a capacity that is greater than ~~45~~ 25 kilowatts, unless the system is
19 located on a new or existing structure the primary purpose of which is not the
20 generation of electricity. With respect to such a system, the rules shall not
21 waive or include provisions that are less stringent than each of the following:

1 (i) the requirement of subdivision 248(a)(4)(C) of this title to
2 provide a copy of the application to the Agencies of Agriculture, Food and
3 Markets and of Natural Resources; the Department of Public Service; the
4 Division for Historic Preservation; the municipal legislative body; and the
5 municipal and regional planning commissions; and

6 (ii) the requirements of subsection 248(f) (preapplication
7 submittal) of this title.

8 (G) The rules shall establish an expedited registration procedure for
9 net metering systems 25 kilowatts and less in size.

10 * * *

11 Sec. 2. RULEMAKING

12 The Public Utility Commission shall update its Rule 5.100 to allow ground
13 mounted photovoltaic net metering systems of 25 kilowatts and less to qualify
14 for expedited registration. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the
15 Commission shall allow systems of 25 kilowatts and less to use the expedited
16 registration before the rules are updated.

17 Sec. 3. 24 V.S.A. § 4412 is amended to read:

18 § 4412. REQUIRED PROVISIONS AND PROHIBITED EFFECTS

19 * * *

20 (15) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of sections 2291a and 4413
21 of this title or 30 V.S.A. chapter 5 or 89, in a municipality that has adopted a

1 bylaw to establish setback requirements for development, those requirements
2 shall apply to a net metering system that is 25 kW or less in size that has been
3 registered with the Public Utility Commission as part of expedited review
4 under 30 V.S.A. § 248. Setback requirements under this subdivision shall not
5 be more restrictive than requirements applied to other development in the
6 municipality under this chapter.

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

8 § 8010. SELF-GENERATION AND NET METERING

9 * * *

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

13 (1) The rules shall establish and maintain a net metering program that:

14 * * *

15 (G) accounts for changes over time in the cost of technology; ~~and~~

16 (H) allows a customer to retain ownership of the environmental
17 attributes of energy generated by the customer's net metering system and of
18 any associated tradeable renewable energy credits or to transfer those attributes
19 and credits to the interconnecting retail provider, and:

(ii) if the customer transfers the attributes to the interconnecting provider, requires the provider to retain them for application toward compliance with sections 8004 and 8005 of this title; and

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This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.