

STATE OF NEW YORK

1315

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 8, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. CAHILL -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ENGLE-BRIGHT, HEVESI, L. ROSENTHAL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Energy

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to New York state renewable electric generation pilot programs

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 73 to read as follows:

§ 73. New York state renewable electric generation pilot programs. 1. The commission shall establish New York state renewable electric generation pilot programs to authorize the development of up to three hundred megawatts of renewable electric capacity statewide, in order to stimulate the growth of clean, affordable, and reliable sources of energy and to foster new partnerships between electric corporations, energy producers and energy customers in New York state.

2. (a) The commission shall oversee the implementation of the pilot programs and shall direct electric corporations to build or cause to be built renewable energy facilities to be financed under terms established through an order of the commission which shall authorize capital and operating costs to be recovered in the corporations rate base and to earn a reasonable return over a period to be determined by the commission, provided that the corporation shall, at minimum, provide the commission with the following:

(i) A detailed description and economic evaluation of the proposed investment;

(ii) A discussion of the costs, benefits, and risks of the proposal, including an analysis of the costs, benefits, and rate implications to the participating customers, to the company's default service customers, and to the utility's distribution customers;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (iii) A description of any equipment or installation specifications,
2 solicitations, and procurements it has implemented or intends to imple-
3 ment;

4 (iv) A showing that it has made reasonable efforts to involve local
5 businesses in its program;

6 (v) Evidence of compliance with all applicable emission limitations;
7 and

8 (vi) A copy of any customer contracts or agreements to be executed as
9 part of the program.

10 (b) Renewable generation facilities eligible to be constructed and
11 financed under the New York state renewable electric generation pilot
12 programs shall:

13 (i) generate electricity through use of the following technologies:
14 solar; wind; photovoltaics; tidal; geothermal; and fuel cells; or

15 (ii) generate electricity through low-impact, run-of-river hydroelec-
16 tric electric generating equipment with capacity up to thirty megawatts
17 with no new storage impoundment;

18 (iii) be manufactured, installed and operated in accordance with
19 applicable government and industry standards;

20 (iv) connect to the electric system and operated in parallel with an
21 electric corporation's transmission and distribution facilities;

22 (v) operate in compliance with any standards and requirements estab-
23 lished by the commission; and

24 (vi) be located within the state, including facilities that consist of
25 customer-owned or leased generators.

26 (c) Authorize electric corporations to own an equity interest in such
27 facilities and allow partnerships with independent power producers,
28 developers, and/or customer-owned or leased generators.

29 § 2. The public service commission shall provide an annual report on
30 or before the first day of June to the governor, the temporary president
31 of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the
32 senate, and the minority leader of the assembly reporting the progress
33 of their efforts and the effects of the program on the environment and
34 public. Such report shall identify each facility participating in the
35 pilot project and shall include, but not be limited to, information on
36 each energy source or sources used for generation at such facility; the
37 sum capacity, in megawatts, of all electrical generating equipment used
38 by the facility; the date the facility will begin or has begun generat-
39 ing electricity; and the number and category of customer-owned or leased
40 generators.

41 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that
42 not later than the one hundred eightieth day after this act shall have
43 become a law, the public service commission shall have in place a
44 competitive process which shall be open to electric corporations.