

SENATE NO. 1961

AN ACT TO PROMOTE ELECTRIC GENERATION VIA RENEWABLE RESOURCES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 164 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition is

2 hereby amended by adding after section 137 a subchapter captioned “On Site Electric

3 Generation Via Renewable Resources” and consisting of the following new sections:-

4 Section 138. Net Metering. Definitions.

5 The following words and phrases as used in sections 139 inclusive shall, unless the context

6 otherwise requires, have the following meanings:-

7 “Large Renewable Generation Facility,” a solar-net-metering or wind-net-metering facility with
8 a generating capacity of more than 1 megawatt but less than or equal to 2 megawatts.

9 “Large Renewable Generation Credit”, credit equal to the excess kWhs by time of use billing
10 period (if applicable) multiplied by the distribution company’s default service kWh charge in
11 the load zone where the customer is located.

12 “Net metering,” the process of measuring the difference between electricity delivered by an
13 electric distribution company and electricity generated by a solar-net-metering facility or wind-
14 net-metering facility and fed back to the distribution company.

15 “Small renewable Generation Facility,” a solar-net-metering or wind-net-metering facility that
16 has a generating capacity of not more than 1 megawatt.

17 “Small Renewable Generation Credit”, credit equal to the excess kWhs by time of use billing
18 period (if applicable) multiplied by the sum of the distribution company’s (i) default service
19 kWh charge in the load zone where the customer is located, (ii) distribution kWh charge, (iii)
20 transmission kWh charge, (iv) transition kWh charge. This does not include the DSM and
21 Renewable kWh charges.

22 “Solar-net-metering facility,” a facility for the production of electrical energy that: uses
23 sunlight to generate electricity, is located on or in the vicinity of a customer’s premise, and is
24 intended to offset part or all of that customer’s requirements for electricity.

25 “Wind-net-metering facility,” a facility for the production of electrical energy that: uses wind to
26 generate electricity, is located on or in the vicinity of a customer’s premise, and is intended to
27 offset part or all of that customer’s requirements for electricity.

28 Section 139. Net Metering.

29 (A) A distribution company customer that uses electricity generated by a small renewable
30 generation facility may elect net metering as per the following:

31 (1) If the electricity generated by the small renewable generation facility during a billing period
32 exceeds the customer’s kilowatt-hour usage during the billing period, the customer shall be
33 billed for zero kilowatt-hour usage and the excess Small Renewable Generation Credits shall be
34 credited to the customer’s account for the following billing period. The customer can elect to
35 apply any such credits earned at an account to other electric service accounts with the written
36 assent of the other account owners.

37 (2) If the customer’s kilowatt-hour usage exceeds the electricity generated by the small
38 renewable generation facility during the billing period, the customer shall be billed for the net
39 kilowatt-hour usage at the applicable rate.

40 (B) A distribution company customer that uses electricity generated by a large renewable
41 generation facility may also elect net metering as per the following:

42 (1) If the electricity generated by the large renewable generation facility during a billing period
43 exceeds the customer's kilowatt-hour usage during the billing period, the customer shall be
44 billed for zero kilowatt-hour usage and the excess Large Renewable Generation Credits shall be
45 credited to the customer's account. The customer can elect to apply any such credits earned at
46 an account to other electric service accounts with the written assent of the other account owners.

47 (2) If the customer's kilowatt-hour usage exceeds the electricity generated by the large
48 renewable generation facility during the billing period, the customer shall be billed for the net
49 kilowatt-hour usage at the applicable rate.

50 (C) The distribution portion of any Small or Large Renewable Credits and the distribution
51 portion of any distribution company delivery charges displaced by the small or large generation
52 facility shall be aggregated by the distribution company and billed to all customers on an annual
53 basis through a uniform per kilowatt-hour surcharge or surcharges.

54 (D) Net metering shall be implemented using a bi-directional meter that registers both the
55 imported and exported electricity flow on an hourly basis.

56 (E) The aggregate amount of net metering will not exceed 1% of the distribution company's
57 peak load.