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Amendment

LCO No. 8852

HB0663508852HDO

Offered by:

REP. NARDELLO, 89th Dist.

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To: Subst. House Bill No. 6635

File No. 491

Cal. No. 350

"AN ACT CONCERNING SOLAR POWER."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Any residential solar
4 photovoltaic direct incentive program administered by the Renewable
5 Energy Investment Fund shall be structured and implemented
6 pursuant to this section and shall result in a minimum of thirty
7 megawatts of new residential solar photovoltaic installations on or
8 before December 31, 2021. For the purposes of this section and section
9 3 of this act, "residential" means dwellings with one to four units.

10 (b) The Renewable Energy Investments Board, through the
11 Renewable Energy Investment Fund, shall offer direct financial
12 incentives, in the form of performance-based incentives or expected
13 performance-based buydowns, for the purchase or lease of qualifying
14 residential solar photovoltaic systems. For the purposes of this section,

15 "performance-based incentives" means incentives paid out on a per
16 kilowatt-hour basis, and "expected performance-based buydowns"
17 means incentives paid out as a one-time upfront incentive based on
18 expected system performance. The Renewable Energy Investments
19 Board shall consider willingness to pay studies and verified solar
20 photovoltaic system characteristics, such as operational efficiency, size,
21 location, shading and orientation, when determining the type and
22 amount of incentive.

23 (c) Beginning with the comprehensive plan covering the period
24 from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2012, the Renewable Energy Investments
25 Board shall develop and publish in each such plan a proposed
26 schedule for the offering of performance-based incentives or expected
27 performance-based buydowns over the duration of any such solar
28 incentive program. Such schedule shall: (1) Provide for a series of solar
29 capacity blocks the combined total of which shall be a minimum of
30 thirty megawatts and projected incentive levels for each such block; (2)
31 provide incentives that decline over time and will foster the sustained,
32 orderly development of a state-based solar industry; (3) automatically
33 adjust to the next block once the board has issued reservations for
34 financial incentives provided pursuant to this section from the
35 Renewable Energy Investment Fund fully committing the target solar
36 capacity and available incentives in that block; and (4) provide
37 comparable economic incentives for the purchase or lease of qualifying
38 residential solar photovoltaic systems. The Renewable Energy
39 Investments Board may retain the services of a third-party entity with
40 expertise in the area of solar energy program design to assist in the
41 development of the incentive schedule or schedules. The Department
42 of Public Utility Control shall review and approve such schedule.
43 Nothing in this subsection shall restrict the board from modifying the
44 approved incentive schedule before the issuance of its next
45 comprehensive plan to account for changes in federal or state law or
46 regulation or developments in the solar market when such changes
47 would affect the expected return on investment for a typical residential
48 solar photovoltaic system by twenty per cent or more.

49 (d) The Renewable Energy Investments Board shall establish and
50 periodically update program guidelines, including, but not limited to,
51 requirements for systems and program participants related to: (1)
52 Eligibility criteria, (2) standards for deployment of energy efficient
53 equipment or building practices as a condition for receiving incentive
54 funding, and (3) procedures to provide reasonable assurance that such
55 reservations are made and incentives are paid out only to qualifying
56 residential solar photovoltaic systems demonstrating a high likelihood
57 of being installed and operated as indicated in application materials.

58 (e) The Renewable Energy Investment Fund shall maintain on its
59 web site the schedule of incentives, solar capacity remaining in the
60 current block and available funding and incentive estimators.

61 (f) Funding for the residential performance-based incentive
62 program and expected performance-based buydowns shall be
63 apportioned from the moneys collected under the surcharge specified
64 in section 16-245n of the general statutes, as amended by this act,
65 provided such apportionment shall not exceed one-third of the total
66 surcharge collected annually, and supplemented by federal funding as
67 may become available.

68 (g) The Renewable Energy Investments Board shall identify barriers
69 to the development of a permanent Connecticut-based solar workforce
70 and shall make provision for comprehensive training, accreditation
71 and certification programs through institutions and individuals
72 accredited and certified to national standards.

73 (h) On or before January 1, 2013, and every two years thereafter for
74 the duration of the program, the Renewable Energy Investments Board
75 shall report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
76 having cognizance of matters relating to energy on progress toward
77 the goals identified in subsection (a) of this section.

78 Sec. 2. Section 16-245n of the general statutes is amended by adding
79 subsection (i) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

80 (NEW) (i) The Renewable Energy Investments Board, through the
81 Renewable Energy Investment Fund, shall establish funding for
82 performance-based incentives to qualifying residential solar energy
83 systems pursuant to section 1 of this act by: (1) Including in its
84 comprehensive plan for the period July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2012,
85 inclusive, an estimate of the total funding needed to support the
86 performance-based incentives to qualifying residential solar energy
87 systems in its entirety and allocating up to one-third for such purpose,
88 (2) including in its comprehensive plan for the period July 1, 2012, to
89 June 30, 2014, inclusive, an estimate of remaining funding needed to
90 support the outstanding capacity blocks for performance-based
91 incentives to qualifying residential solar energy systems and allocating
92 up to one-half of all such funding, (3) carrying forward any funding
93 allocated to support performance-based incentives pursuant to
94 subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection disbursed during the two-year
95 period covered by the comprehensive plan for the same purpose until
96 all capacity blocks have been filled, (4) allocating the balance of the
97 funding as necessary, and (5) monitoring the status of available funds
98 and expected demand and including such assessment in its annual
99 report to the Department of Public Utility Control pursuant to
100 subsection (f) of section 1 of this act.

101 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Commencing on January 1,
102 2010, and within the period established in subsection (a) of section 4 of
103 this act, each electric distribution company shall solicit and file with
104 the Department of Public Utility Control for its approval, one or more
105 long-term power purchase contracts with owners or developers of
106 customer-sited, nonresidential solar photovoltaic generation projects
107 located in this state with less than two thousand kilowatts in size,
108 located on the customer side of the revenue meter, and connected to
109 the distribution system of the electric distribution company. For
110 purposes of this subsection, "nonresidential" shall include all utility
111 retail rate classes with the exception of residential, as defined in
112 subsection (a) of section 1 of this act.

113 (b) Solicitations conducted by the electric distribution company

114 shall be for the purchase of solar renewable energy credits produced
115 by eligible nonresidential, customer-sited solar photovoltaic generating
116 projects over the duration of the long-term contract. For purposes of
117 this section, a long-term contract is a contract for a minimum of fifteen
118 years. The electric distribution company may solicit proposals for a
119 combination of renewable energy and associated solar renewable
120 energy credits.

121 (c) The aggregate procurement of solar renewable energy credits by
122 electric distribution companies pursuant to this section shall be no less
123 than four million three hundred fifty thousand. The production of a
124 megawatt hour of electricity from a nonresidential Class I solar
125 renewable energy source first placed in service on or after the effective
126 date of this section shall create one solar renewable energy credit. The
127 obligation to purchase solar renewable energy credits shall be
128 apportioned to electric distribution companies based on their
129 respective distribution system loads at the commencement of the
130 procurement period, as determined by the department.

131 (d) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of subsection (j) of section 16-
132 244c of the general statutes, an electric distribution company may
133 retire the solar renewable energy credits it procures through long-term
134 contracting to satisfy its obligation pursuant to section 16-245a of the
135 general statutes.

136 (e) Nothing in this section shall preclude the resale or other
137 disposition of energy or associated solar renewable energy credits
138 purchased by the electric distribution company, provided the
139 distribution company shall net the cost of payments made to projects
140 under the long-term contracts against the proceeds of the sale of
141 energy or solar renewable energy credits and the difference shall be
142 credited or charged to distribution customers through a reconciling
143 component of electric rates as determined by the department.

144 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Each electric distribution
145 company shall, not later than one hundred eighty days after the

146 effective date of this section, propose a ten-year solar solicitation plan
147 that shall include a timetable and methodology for soliciting proposals
148 for long-term solar renewable energy credits or energy contracts from
149 in-state generators. The electric distribution company's solar
150 solicitation plan shall be subject to the review and approval of the
151 Department of Public Utility Control, provided contracts comprising
152 no less than twenty-five per cent of the electric distribution company's
153 obligation shall be submitted for department approval on or before
154 January 1, 2011, no less than fifty per cent of such obligation shall be
155 submitted for such approval on or before July 1, 2013, and no less than
156 seventy-five per cent of such obligation shall be submitted for such
157 approval on or before July 1, 2015.

158 (b) The electric distribution company's approved solar solicitation
159 plan shall be designed to foster a diversity of solar project sizes and
160 participation among all eligible customer classes subject to cost-
161 effectiveness considerations. Separate procurement processes shall be
162 conducted for (1) nonresidential systems between ten kilowatts and
163 fifty kilowatts, and (2) nonresidential systems greater than fifty
164 kilowatts but less than two thousand kilowatts. The department shall
165 give preference to competitive bidding for resources of more than fifty
166 kilowatts, unless the department determines that an alternative
167 methodology is in the best interests of the electric distribution
168 company's customers and the development of a competitive and self-
169 sustaining solar market. Systems up to fifty kilowatts in size shall be
170 eligible to receive a solar renewable energy credit price equivalent to
171 the highest accepted bid price in the most recent solicitation for
172 systems greater than fifty kilowatts but less than two thousand
173 kilowatts, plus an additional incentive of ten per cent.

174 (c) Each electric distribution company shall execute its approved
175 ten-year solicitation plan and submit for department review and
176 approval its preferred solar procurement plan comprised of any
177 proposed contract or contracts with independent solar developers.

178 (d) The department shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as

179 an uncontested case, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of
180 the general statutes, to approve, reject or modify an application for
181 approval of the electric distribution company's solar procurement
182 plan. The department shall only approve such proposed plan if the
183 department finds that (1) the solicitation and evaluation conducted by
184 the electric distribution company was the result of a fair, open,
185 competitive and transparent process; (2) approval of the solar
186 procurement plan would result in the greatest expected ratepayer
187 value from solar energy or solar renewable energy credits at the lowest
188 reasonable cost; and (3) such procurement plan satisfies other criteria
189 established in the approved solicitation plan. The department shall not
190 approve any proposal made under such plan unless it determines that
191 the plan and proposals encompass all foreseeable sources of revenue
192 or benefits and that such proposals, together with such revenue or
193 benefits, would result in the greatest expected ratepayer value from
194 solar energy or solar renewable energy credits. The department may,
195 in its discretion, retain the services of an independent consultant with
196 expertise in the area of energy procurement. The independent
197 consultant shall be unaffiliated with the electric distribution company
198 or its affiliates and shall not, directly or indirectly, have benefited from
199 employment or contracts with the electric distribution company or its
200 affiliates in the preceding five years, except as an independent
201 consultant. For purposes of such audit, the electric distribution
202 company shall provide the independent consultant immediate and
203 continuing access to all documents and data reviewed, used or
204 produced by the electric distribution company in its bid solicitation
205 and evaluation process. The electric distribution company shall make
206 all its personnel, agents and contractors used in the bid solicitation and
207 evaluation available for interview by the consultant. The electric
208 distribution company shall conduct any additional modeling
209 requested by the independent auditor to test the assumptions and
210 results of the bid evaluation process. The independent consultant shall
211 not participate in or advise the electric distribution company with
212 respect to any decisions in the bid solicitation or bid evaluation
213 process. The department's administrative costs in reviewing the

214 electric distribution company's solar procurement plan and the costs of
215 the consultant shall be recovered through a reconciling component of
216 electric rates as determined by the department.

217 (e) The electric distribution company shall be entitled to recover its
218 reasonable costs of complying with its approved solar procurement
219 plan through a reconciling component of electric rates as determined
220 by the department.

221 (f) If, by January 1, 2011, the department has not received proposed
222 long-term solar renewable energy credit contracts consisting of at least
223 twenty-five per cent of each electric distribution company's
224 procurement obligation or by July 1, 2013, has not received proposed
225 long-term solar renewable energy contracts consisting of at least fifty
226 per cent of each electric distribution company's procurement
227 obligation, or by July 1, 2015, has not proposed long-term solar
228 renewable energy contracts consisting of at least seventy-five per cent
229 of each electric distribution company's procurement obligation,
230 respectively, the department shall notify the electric distribution
231 company and the Renewable Energy Investments Board of the
232 shortfall. Unless, upon petition by the electric distribution company,
233 the department grants the distribution company an extension not to
234 exceed ninety days to correct this deficiency, the Renewable Energy
235 Investments Board shall issue one or more requests for proposals to
236 address the shortfall. The board shall perform an initial review of each
237 proposal, examine the financial and technical viability of each proposal
238 and analyze project costs and benefits for the purpose of selecting
239 projects that will promote the provision of long-term solar renewable
240 energy contracts. Upon selection of the projects, the board shall
241 forward such projects to each electric distribution company for review.
242 For each project, each electric distribution company shall analyze the
243 interconnection point and costs related thereto, reliability and other
244 impacts of such project to determine whether the project will promote
245 the provision of additional long-term solar renewable energy contracts.
246 Each electric distribution company shall provide the results of its
247 analysis to the department, which shall conduct a proceeding to

248 determine whether to approve or reject each project. The reasonable
249 administrative costs associated with the procurement of long-term
250 solar renewable energy contracts shall be collected by the distribution
251 company, maintained in a separate interest-bearing account and
252 disbursed to the Renewable Energy Investment Fund on a quarterly
253 basis.

254 (g) Not later than sixty days after its approval of the distribution
255 company procurement plans submitted on or before January 1, 2011,
256 the department shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of
257 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy.
258 The report shall document for each distribution company procurement
259 plan: (1) The total number of solar renewable energy credits bid
260 relative to the number of solar renewable energy credits requested by
261 the distribution company; (2) the total number of bidders in each
262 market segment; (3) the number of contracts awarded; and (4) the total
263 weighted average price of the solar renewable energy credits or energy
264 so purchased. The department shall not report individual bid
265 information or other proprietary information.

266 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) On or before July 1, 2010,
267 the Renewable Energy Investment Fund, in consultation with the
268 Office of Policy and Management and the Department of Public
269 Works, shall, within available funding, complete, or cause to be
270 completed by private vendors, a comprehensive solar feasibility
271 survey of facilities owned or operated by the state with a load of fifty
272 kilowatts or more. The survey shall rank state-owned or operated
273 facilities based on their technical feasibility to accommodate solar
274 photovoltaic generating systems by considering such factors as: (1) On-
275 site energy consumption; (2) building orientation; (3) roof age and
276 condition; (4) shading and the potential for obstruction to sunlight
277 over the life of the solar system; (5) structural load capacity; (6)
278 availability of ancillary facilities, such as parking lots, walkways or
279 maintenance areas; (7) nonenergy related amenities; and (8) other
280 factors that the Renewable Energy Investment Fund deems may bear
281 on the technical feasibility of such solar deployment.

282 (b) The Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the
283 Renewable Energy Investment Fund, shall, within available funding,
284 issue one or more requests for proposals for the deployment of solar
285 photovoltaic generating systems at state-owned or operated facilities.
286 Any such request for proposals shall be structured to maximize the
287 state's ability to secure incentives available from the federal
288 government or other sources. The Office of Policy and Management
289 may seek in any request for proposals the services of an entity to
290 finance, design, construct, own or maintain such solar photovoltaic
291 system under a long-term solar services agreement. Any such entity
292 chosen to provide such services shall not be considered a public
293 service company under section 16-1 of the general statutes.

294 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Each electric distribution
295 company shall, not later than July 1, 2010, file with the Department of
296 Public Utility Control for its approval a tariff for production-based
297 payments to owners or operators of Class I solar renewable energy
298 source projects located in this state that are not less than one megawatt
299 and connected directly to the distribution system of an electric
300 distribution company.

301 (b) Such tariffs shall provide production-based payments for a
302 period not less than fifteen years from the in-service date of the Class I
303 solar renewable energy source project at a price that is, at the
304 determination of the Department of Public Utility Control, a cost-based
305 payment consisting of the fully allocated cost of constructing and
306 operating a Class I solar renewable energy source of from one
307 megawatt to seven and one-half megawatts were such construction
308 and operation to be undertaken or procured by the electric distribution
309 company itself. In calculating the cost-based tariff, the department
310 shall consider actual cost data for Class I solar energy sources
311 constructed and operated by the electric distribution company
312 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section taking into consideration all
313 available state and federal incentives.

314 (c) Such tariffs shall include a per project eligibility cap of seven and

315 one-half megawatts and an aggregate eligibility cap of fifty megawatts,
316 apportioned among each electric distribution company in proportion
317 to distribution load.

318 (d) The cost of such tariff payments shall be eligible for inclusion in
319 any subsequent rates, provided such payments are for projects
320 operational on or after the effective date of this section, and recovered
321 through a reconciling component of electric rates as determined by the
322 department.

323 (e) On and after July 1, 2010, electric distribution companies may
324 construct, own and operate solar electric generating facilities up to
325 one-third of their proportional share of the total cap amounts specified
326 under subsection (c) of this section, provided any such development
327 shall be phased in over a period of no less than three years. Such
328 projects shall be located on company-owned properties, brownfields or
329 other locations identified by the Department of Public Utility Control
330 for strategic placement of distributed generation. The department, in a
331 contested case, shall authorize the electric distribution company to
332 recover in rates its costs to construct, own and operate solar electric
333 generating facilities, including a reasonable return on its investment, if
334 such approval would result in a reasonable cost of meeting the solar
335 energy requirements pursuant to said subsection (c) of this section and
336 that such investment will not restrict competition or restrict growth in
337 the state's solar energy industry or unfairly employ in a manner which
338 would restrict competition in the market for solar energy systems any
339 financial, marketing, distributing or generating advantage that the
340 electric distribution company may exercise as a result of its authority
341 to operate as a public service company.

342 (f) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of subsection (j) of section 16-
343 244c of the general statutes, the amount of renewable energy produced
344 from Class I renewable energy sources receiving tariff payments or
345 included in utility rates under this section shall be applied to reduce
346 the electric distribution company's Class I renewable energy source
347 portfolio standard.

348 (g) On or before September 1, 2011, the Department of Public Utility
349 Control, in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel and the
350 Renewable Energy Investments Board, shall study the operation of
351 solar renewable energy tariffs and shall report, in accordance with the
352 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, its findings and
353 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General
354 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy.

355 (h) The department shall suspend the tariff established pursuant to
356 this section upon the earlier of (1) an electric distribution company
357 reaching its aggregate cap pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, or
358 (2) three years from the effective date of the tariff.

359 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Renewable Energy
360 Investment Fund and the Conservation and Load Management Fund
361 shall develop coordinated programs to create a self-sustaining market
362 for solar thermal systems for electricity, natural gas and fuel oil
363 customers.

364 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Renewable Energy
365 Investment Fund, shall provide an additional incentive of up to five
366 per cent of the then-applicable incentive provided pursuant to sections
367 1 and 7 of this act for the use of major system components
368 manufactured or assembled in Connecticut, and another additional
369 incentive of up to five per cent of the then applicable incentive
370 provided pursuant to sections 1 and 7 of this act for the use of major
371 system components manufactured or assembled in a distressed
372 municipality, as defined in section 32-9p of the general statutes, or a
373 targeted investment community, as defined in section 32-222 of the
374 general statutes.

375 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the two-year period
376 starting January 1, 2010, and ending June 30, 2012, the aggregate net
377 annual cost recovered for electric ratepayers pursuant to section 1 and
378 sections 3 to 8, inclusive, of this act and subsection (i) of section 16-
379 245n of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall not exceed

380 one-half of one per cent of total retail electricity sales revenues of each
381 electric distribution company. For the two-year period starting July 1,
382 2012, and ending June 30, 2014, the aggregate net annual cost
383 recovered for electric ratepayers pursuant to section 1 and sections 3 to
384 8, inclusive, of this act and subsection (i) of section 16-245n of the
385 general statutes, as amended by this act, shall not exceed three-fourths
386 of one per cent of total retail electricity sales revenues of each electric
387 distribution company. For each twelve-month period starting July 1,
388 2014, and every July first thereafter for the duration of the solar
389 programs established pursuant to section 1 and sections 3 to 8,
390 inclusive, of this act and subsection (i) of section 16-245n of the general
391 statutes, as amended by this act, the aggregate net cost of such
392 programs recovered for electric ratepayers shall not exceed one per
393 cent of total retail electricity sales revenues of each electric distribution
394 company.

395 (b) The Department of Public Utility Control shall net out the
396 incentives paid by the Renewable Energy Investment Fund pursuant to
397 section 16-245n of the general statutes, as amended by this act, for solar
398 deployment programs against the aggregate annual costs identified in
399 this section.

400 (c) If the department projects that the annual cost cap will be
401 exceeded, the department may take the following cost mitigation
402 measures: (1) Delay or modify the development of solar electric
403 generating facilities by electric distribution companies pursuant to
404 subsection (e) of section 6 of this act; (2) temporarily suspend the
405 availability of production-based incentives to customers not already
406 eligible to receive such incentives under section 6 of this act; and (3)
407 extend the scheduled electric distribution company solar renewable
408 energy credit procurement plans under section 4 of this act. If the
409 department determines that cost mitigation measures are required, it
410 shall reduce proportionally the annual funding for the programs
411 identified in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this subsection and
412 only to the extent required to bring projected annual costs below the
413 cost cap.

414 (d) On or before January 1, 2013, the department shall report to the
415 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
416 of matters relating to energy on the cost and charges involved in the
417 implementation of this program, including a cost-benefit analysis.

418 Sec. 10. Subdivision (2) of subsection (j) of section 16-244c of the
419 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
420 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

421 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of this section
422 regarding an alternative transitional standard offer option or an
423 alternative standard service option, an electric distribution company
424 providing transitional standard offer service, standard service,
425 supplier of last resort service or back-up electric generation service in
426 accordance with this section shall, not later than July 1, 2008, file with
427 the Department of Public Utility Control for its approval one or more
428 long-term power purchase contracts from Class I renewable energy
429 source projects that receive funding from the Renewable Energy
430 Investment Fund and that are not less than one megawatt in size, at a
431 price that is either, at the determination of the project owner, (A) not
432 more than the total of the comparable wholesale market price for
433 generation plus five and one-half cents per kilowatt hour, or (B) fifty
434 per cent of the wholesale market electricity cost at the point at which
435 transmission lines intersect with each other or interface with the
436 distribution system, plus the project cost of fuel indexed to natural gas
437 futures contracts on the New York Mercantile Exchange at the natural
438 gas pipeline interchange located in Vermillion Parish, Louisiana that
439 serves as the delivery point for such futures contracts, plus the fuel
440 delivery charge for transporting fuel to the project, plus five and one-
441 half cents per kilowatt hour. In its approval of such contracts, the
442 department shall give preference to purchase contracts from those
443 projects that would provide a financial benefit to ratepayers or would
444 enhance the reliability of the electric transmission system of the state.
445 Such projects shall be located in this state. The owner of a fuel cell
446 project principally manufactured in this state shall be allocated all
447 available air emissions credits and tax credits attributable to the project

448 and no less than fifty per cent of the energy credits in the Class I
 449 renewable energy credits program established in section 16-245a
 450 attributable to the project. On [and after October 1, 2007, and until
 451 September 30, 2008, such contracts shall be comprised of not less than a
 452 total, apportioned among each electric distribution company, of one
 453 hundred twenty-five megawatts; and on] and after October 1, [2008]
 454 2010, such contracts shall be comprised of not less than a total,
 455 apportioned among each electrical distribution company, of one
 456 hundred fifty megawatts, plus not less than an additional forty-five
 457 megawatts to address project attrition after contract execution with the
 458 intent that no more than one hundred fifty megawatts reach
 459 commercial operation pursuant to this section. The cost of such
 460 contracts and the administrative costs for the procurement of such
 461 contracts directly incurred shall be eligible for inclusion in the
 462 adjustment to the transitional standard offer as provided in this section
 463 and any subsequent rates for standard service, provided such contracts
 464 are for a period of time sufficient to provide financing for such
 465 projects, but not less than ten years, and are for projects which began
 466 operation on or after July 1, 2003. Except as provided in this
 467 subdivision, the amount from Class I renewable energy sources
 468 contracted under such contracts shall be applied to reduce the
 469 applicable Class I renewable energy source portfolio standards. For
 470 purposes of this subdivision, the department's determination of the
 471 comparable wholesale market price for generation shall be based upon
 472 a reasonable estimate. On or before September 1, [2007] 2010, the
 473 department, in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel and
 474 the Renewable Energy Investments [Advisory Council] Board, shall
 475 study the operation of such renewable energy contracts and report its
 476 findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
 477 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	16-245n

Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	16-244c(j)(2)