



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Committee Bill No. 6435

LCO No. 5433



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:
(ET)

**AN ACT STREAMLINING THE PERMITTING PROCESS FOR
RESIDENTIAL SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) As used in this
2 section:

3 (1) "Residential solar photovoltaic system" means equipment and
4 devices that have the primary purpose of collecting solar energy and
5 generating electricity by photovoltaic effect, have a nameplate capacity
6 of twelve kilowatts or less, are installed on the roof of a single-family
7 or multifamily home, conform to the National Electrical Code, and
8 State Building and Fire Safety Codes and do not exceed the maximum
9 building height authorized by the municipality where such home is
10 situated;

11 (2) "Municipality" means any town, consolidated town and city or
12 consolidated town and borough;

13 (3) "Permit" means a permit to install and interconnect a residential
14 solar photovoltaic system to the electric grid;

15 (4) "Permit applicant" means a natural person or household seeking
16 a permit to install a residential solar photovoltaic system;

17 (5) "Inspection" means a structural, electrical and fire safety
18 inspection of the permit applicant's residential solar photovoltaic
19 system.

20 (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, each municipality shall develop a
21 permitting process for residential solar photovoltaic systems. Each
22 municipality shall develop and post on the municipality's Internet web
23 site a permit application for the installation of a residential solar
24 photovoltaic system. A municipality may allow for electronic
25 submission of such application. Each municipality may charge a flat
26 fee for such permit, unless the municipality exempts such systems
27 from payment of permit fees pursuant to section 29-263 of the general
28 statutes.

29 (c) Not more than three business days after receipt of a permit
30 application, a municipality shall inspect the applicant's residential
31 solar photovoltaic system. Not more than one inspection is required
32 for each residential solar photovoltaic system, unless a health or safety
33 issue is detected during the inspection of such system. A municipality
34 may perform a separate fire safety inspection if deemed necessary by
35 the municipality. Review of the permit application shall be limited to
36 whether the residential solar photovoltaic system meets all health and
37 safety requirements of municipal, state and federal law. If the
38 municipality makes a finding that a residential solar photovoltaic
39 system does not meet municipal, state or federal health and safety
40 requirements, such municipality may require the permit applicant to
41 apply for a special use permit.

42 (d) Not more than ten business days after receipt of a permit
43 application, a municipality shall inform such permit applicant whether
44 such application is approved or denied.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2015	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To streamline the permitting process for residential solar photovoltaic systems.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. HOYDICK, 120th Dist.

H.B. 6435