



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2018

LCO No. 5740



Offered by:

REP. LEMAR, 96th Dist.
SEN. CASSANO, 4th Dist.
REP. STEINBERG, 136th Dist.
REP. MORIN, 28th Dist.
REP. O'DEA, 125th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5537

File No. 459

Cal. No. 331

"AN ACT CONCERNING SHARED SOLAR FACILITIES AND MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS."

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

3 "Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 16-245d of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
5 *October 1, 2018*):

6 (a) (1) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, by
7 regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 54, develop a standard billing
8 format that enables customers to compare pricing policies and charges
9 among electric suppliers. The authority shall alter or repeal any
10 relevant regulation in conjunction with the implementation of a
11 redesigned standard billing format described in subdivision (2) of this

12 subsection. The authority shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
13 the provisions of chapter 54, to provide that an electric supplier shall
14 (A) provide direct billing and collection services for electric generation
15 services and related federally mandated congestion charges that such
16 suppliers provide to their customers, (B) provide direct billing and
17 collection services for all components of electric service, or [may
18 choose to] (C) obtain [such] billing and collection service through an
19 electric distribution company and pay its pro rata share in accordance
20 with the provisions of subsection (f) of section 16-244c. Any customer
21 of an electric supplier, which is choosing to provide direct billing, who
22 paid for the cost of billing and other services to an electric distribution
23 company shall receive a credit on their monthly bill.

24 (2) On or before July 1, 2014, the authority shall initiate a docket to
25 redesign (A) the standard billing format for residential customers
26 implemented pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to better
27 enable such residential customers to compare pricing policies and
28 charges among electric suppliers, and (B) the account summary page
29 of a residential customer located on the electric distribution company's
30 Internet web site. The authority shall issue a final decision on such
31 docket not later than six months after its initiation. Such final decision
32 shall include the placement of the following items on the first page of
33 each bill for each residential customer receiving electric generation
34 service from an electric supplier: (i) The electric generation service rate;
35 (ii) the term and expiration date of such rate; (iii) any change to such
36 rate effective for the next billing cycle; (iv) the cancellation fee, if
37 applicable, provided there is such a change; (v) notification that such
38 rate is variable, if applicable; (vi) the standard service rate; (vii) the
39 term and expiration date of the standard service rate; (viii) the dollar
40 amount that would have been billed for the electric generation services
41 component had the customer been receiving standard service; and (ix)
42 an electronic link or Internet web site address to the rate board Internet
43 web site described in section 16-244d and the toll-free telephone
44 number and other information necessary to enable the customer to
45 obtain standard service. Such final decision shall also include the

46 feasibility of (I) an electric distribution company transferring a
47 residential customer receiving electric generation service from an
48 electric supplier to a different electric supplier in a timely manner and
49 ensuring that the electric distribution company and the relevant
50 electric suppliers provide timely information to each other to facilitate
51 such transfer, and (II) allowing residential customers to choose how to
52 receive information related to bill notices, including United States mail,
53 electronic mail, text message, an application on a cellular telephone or
54 a third-party notification service approved by the authority. On or
55 before July 1, 2015, the authority shall implement, or cause to be
56 implemented, the redesigned standard billing format and Internet web
57 site for a customer's account summary. On or before July 1, 2020, and
58 every five years thereafter, the authority shall reopen such docket to
59 ensure the standard billing format and Internet web site for a
60 customer's account summary remains a useful tool for customers to
61 compare pricing policies and charges among electric suppliers.

62 (3) On or before October 1, 2018, the authority shall initiate a docket
63 to allow electric suppliers to apply for a license to provide direct
64 billing and collection services for all components of electric service
65 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and provide direct
66 billing and collection services for such components. Such docket shall:
67 (A) Include the creation of an application form prescribed by the
68 authority, which shall include, but not be limited to, a requirement that
69 the applicant demonstrate to the satisfaction of the authority that such
70 applicant has the technical, managerial and financial capabilities to
71 provide such direct billing and collection services; (B) require the
72 applicant to provide and maintain a bond or other security in an
73 amount and form approved by the authority to ensure such applicant's
74 financial responsibility for such provision; (C) subject each electric
75 supplier licensed pursuant to this subdivision to periodic review by
76 the authority on a schedule established by the authority or as deemed
77 necessary by the authority; (D) permit any customer of an electric
78 supplier licensed pursuant to this subdivision to (i) designate an
79 electric supplier licensed pursuant to this subdivision to receive such

80 customer's bill for all components of electric service, and (ii) authorize
81 the electric distribution company that serves such customer to send
82 such customer's bill to such designated supplier; and (E) require each
83 electric supplier licensed pursuant to this subdivision that provides
84 direct billing and collection services for all components of electric
85 service to pay such electric distribution company the amounts due
86 such company for transmission and distribution services, less
87 uncollectible bills and overdue payments as approved by the
88 authority. The authority shall issue a final decision on such docket not
89 later than April 1, 2019.

90 [(3)] (4) An electric supplier that chooses to provide billing and
91 collection services pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of
92 this subsection shall, in accordance with the billing format developed
93 by the authority, include the following information in each customer's
94 bill: (A) The total amount owed by the customer, which shall be
95 itemized to show (i) the electric generation services component and
96 any additional charges or billing credits imposed by the electric
97 supplier, and (ii) federally mandated congestion charges applicable to
98 the generation services; (B) any unpaid amounts from previous bills,
99 which shall be listed separately from current charges; (C) the rate and
100 usage for the current month and each of the previous twelve months in
101 bar graph form or other visual format; (D) the payment due date; (E)
102 the interest rate applicable to any unpaid amount; (F) the toll-free
103 telephone number of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for
104 questions or complaints; and (G) the toll-free telephone number and
105 address of the electric supplier. On or before October 1, 2013, the
106 authority shall conduct a review of the costs and benefits of suppliers
107 billing for all components of electric service, and report, in accordance
108 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of
109 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy
110 regarding the results of such review. Any such report may be
111 submitted electronically.

112 (5) An electric supplier licensed pursuant to subdivision (3) of this
113 subsection that chooses to provide direct billing and collection services

114 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection
115 shall, in accordance with the billing format developed by the authority,
116 include the following information in each customer's bill: (A) The total
117 amount owed by the customer, which shall be itemized to show (i) the
118 electric generation services component and any additional charges or
119 billing credits imposed by the electric supplier, (ii) the distribution
120 charge, including all applicable taxes and the systems benefits charge,
121 as provided in section 16-245l, (iii) the transmission rate as adjusted
122 pursuant to subsection (d) of section 16-19b, (iv) the competitive
123 transition assessment, as provided in section 16-245g, (v) federally
124 mandated congestion charges, and (vi) the conservation and renewable
125 energy charge, consisting of the conservation and load management
126 program charge, as provided in section 16-245m, and the renewable
127 energy investment charge, as provided in section 16-245n; (B) any
128 unpaid amounts from previous bills, which shall be listed separately
129 from current charges; (C) the rate and usage for the current month and
130 each of the previous twelve months in bar graph form or other visual
131 format; (D) the payment due date; (E) the interest rate applicable to
132 any unpaid amount; (F) the toll-free telephone number of the electric
133 distribution company to report power losses; (G) the toll-free
134 telephone number of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for
135 questions or complaints; and (H) the toll-free telephone number and
136 address of the electric supplier.

137 [(4)] (6) An electric distribution company shall, in accordance with
138 the billing format developed by the authority, include the following
139 information in each customer's bill: (A) The total amount owed by the
140 customer, which shall be itemized to show, (i) the electric generation
141 services component if the customer obtains standard service or last
142 resort service from the electric distribution company, (ii) the
143 distribution charge, including all applicable taxes and the systems
144 benefits charge, as provided in section 16-245l, (iii) the transmission
145 rate as adjusted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 16-19b, (iv) the
146 competitive transition assessment, as provided in section 16-245g, (v)
147 federally mandated congestion charges, and (vi) the conservation and

148 renewable energy charge, consisting of the conservation and load
149 management program charge, as provided in section 16-245m, and the
150 renewable energy investment charge, as provided in section 16-245n;
151 (B) any unpaid amounts from previous bills which shall be listed
152 separately from current charges; (C) except for customers subject to a
153 demand charge, the rate and usage for the current month and each of
154 the previous twelve months in the form of a bar graph or other visual
155 form; (D) the payment due date; (E) the interest rate applicable to any
156 unpaid amount; (F) the toll-free telephone number of the electric
157 distribution company to report power losses; (G) the toll-free
158 telephone number of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for
159 questions or complaints; and (H) if a customer has a demand of five
160 hundred kilowatts or less during the preceding twelve months, a
161 statement about the availability of information concerning electric
162 suppliers pursuant to section 16-245p.

163 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) As used in this section:

164 (1) "Billing credit" means a credit equal to the retail cost per
165 kilowatt-hour the subscriber may have otherwise been charged for
166 each kilowatt-hour purchased pursuant to a subscription;

167 (2) "Electric distribution company" has the same meaning as
168 provided in section 16-1 of the general statutes;

169 (3) "Electric supplier" has the same meaning as provided in section
170 16-1 of the general statutes;

171 (4) "Individual billing meter" has the same meaning as provided in
172 section 16-244x of the general statutes;

173 (5) "Supplier clean energy facility" means a Class I renewable energy
174 source, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, that (A) is
175 served by an electric distribution company or is within an electric
176 distribution company's service territory and delivers electricity to such
177 electric distribution company's electric transmission system, (B) is
178 within the same electric distribution company service territory as a

179 subscriber's individual billing meter, and (C) has at least two
180 subscribers;

181 (6) "Subscriber" has the same meaning as provided in section 16-
182 244x of the general statutes;

183 (7) "Subscription" means a beneficial use of a supplier clean energy
184 facility, including, but not limited to, a percentage interest in the total
185 amount of electricity produced by such facility or a set amount of
186 electricity produced by such facility; and

187 (8) "Excess billing credit" means, in any given monthly billing
188 period, a billing credit that remains after the subscriber has been billed
189 for zero kilowatt-hours related to the generation service and
190 transmission and distribution charges.

191 (b) An electric supplier may (1) own and operate one or more
192 supplier clean energy facilities, or (2) contract with a third-party entity
193 to build, own or operate one or more supplier clean energy facilities.
194 Such electric supplier may contract with subscribers for subscriptions
195 to such supplier clean energy facility.

196 (c) The electric distribution company or electric supplier that
197 provides any subscriber's billing and collection services shall include a
198 billing credit on such subscriber's electric bill for the kilowatt-hours
199 purchased through such subscription. Such credit shall be applied
200 against all components of the electric bill and any monthly fees,
201 provided such credit shall be applied against an amount of the
202 monthly fees that is proportional to the percentage of generation
203 service that the subscriber obtains through a subscription.

204 (d) An electric distribution company or electric supplier shall carry
205 forward any excess billing credits contracted for by the subscriber from
206 one monthly billing period to the next.

207 (e) An electric distribution company may recover its costs and
208 investments that have been prudently incurred as well as its revenues

209 lost resulting from the provisions of this section. The Public Utilities
210 Regulatory Authority shall, after a hearing held pursuant to the
211 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, determine the
212 appropriate mechanism to obtain such recovery in a timely manner
213 which mechanism may be one or more of the following: (1) Approval
214 of rates as provided in sections 16-19 and 16-19e of the general statutes;
215 (2) the energy adjustment clause as provided in section 16-19b of the
216 general statutes; or (3) the federally mandated congestion charges, as
217 defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	16-245d(a)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section