

From: Greg Gregory <rhvolute@hotmail.com>  
To: Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov  
Date: 5/12/2014 5:10:44 PM  
Subject: FW: SC solar legislation (S.1189)

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Katherine -

See below for an explanation from Hamilton Davis from the CCA. He wrote most of the bill along with John Frick who represented the utilities. Dukes Scott (ORS) was involved as well as Chuck Claunch from Duke Energy. The original bill # was S589, but a new bill was introduced to substitute for that one since there were possible germaneness problems.

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From: HamiltonD@scccl.org  
To: HamiltonD@scccl.org  
Subject: SC solar legislation (S.1189)  
Date: Thu, 3 Apr 2014 14:04:43 +0000

All,

Here is an overview of the solar legislation that is now on the senate floor:

**First**, the bill **continues “net metering” in South Carolina**. Net metering allows consumers to sell power from their solar panels back to the grid.

**Second**, the bill enables **new distributed renewable energy programs** by utilities that, by 2021, must result in 2% of installed peak capacity from distributed resources like solar.

1% must be from residential and commercial scale distributed systems (below 1MW)

1% must come from larger (up to 10MW) facilities.

Hard cost caps limit program size and ratepayer impact

Programs must facilitate solar for tax-exempt entities like churches and schools

**Third**, after the PSC approves these distributed renewable energy programs, the PSC will adopt **new net metering rates capturing the benefits and costs of distributed solar**. This incentivizes utilities to launch their distributed renewable programs. With the new net metering rates:

cap for individual commercial net metered facilities will rise from 100 kW to 1 MW

the cap for aggregated net metered installations will rise from 0.2% to 2%

Existing NEM customers will be grandfathered at current rates until Dec. 31, 2020

**Fourth**, once new net metering rates are in effect, the **bill allows for solar leasing**. Homeowners and businesses will be able to lower their power bills by leasing solar systems, without paying large up-front capital costs.

Solar leasing will be capped at 2% of a utility's peak demand

Bill allows for leasing and net metering by customer; does not allow for direct 3rd party sales of electricity

I'm sure you all have also seen the critiques of this legislation from a group out of California. The Alliance for Solar Choice

(TASC). CCL, SELC, and the SC Solar Business Alliance have talked at length with this group, and **we believe that their criticism is unwarranted and misplaced.**

A key part of this legislation is enabling utilities to offer solar programs targeted at increased rooftop solar investments by customers, and the TASC has interpreted those provisions to represent unfair competition to their business model. To the contrary, we believe a healthy solar market in SC includes a variety of investment options for residents and businesses, and utility solar programs represent just one option among many that will result from this legislation.

1 page overview of S.1189:

<http://thinkenergysc.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/SC-handout-on-solar-bill-S1189.pdf>

"Time to unleash SC's solar power potential"

[http://thinkenergysc.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Solar\\_Handout\\_SC\\_0314\\_F.pdf](http://thinkenergysc.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Solar_Handout_SC_0314_F.pdf)

S.1189 (Changed from S.536 for procedural reasons ):

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=1189&session=0&summary=B>

Please consider contacting your senator and representative to express your support:

<http://capwiz.com/scccl/home/>

Thanks!

Hamilton

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View footage from CCL's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference *Prosperous Lowcountry, Flourishing Planet*