

Raymond P. Ward proposes the following substitute bill:

Solar Power Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Raymond P. Ward

Senate Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies provisions related to residential solar energy generation by creating a new category for small portable solar generation devices.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- creates exemptions from interconnection requirements for portable solar generation devices;
- establishes basic safety requirements for portable solar generation devices; and
- provides liability protections for electrical corporations.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

54-15-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 53

ENACTS:

54-15-601, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **54-15-102** is amended to read:

54-15-102 . Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Annualized billing period" means:

- 29 (a) a 12-month billing cycle beginning on April 1 of one year and ending on March 31
30 of the following year; or
- 31 (b) an additional 12-month billing cycle as defined by an electrical corporation's net
32 metering tariff or rate schedule.
- 33 (2) "Customer-generated electricity" means electricity that:
- 34 (a) is generated by a customer generation system for a customer participating in a net
35 metering program;
- 36 (b) exceeds the electricity the customer needs for the customer's own use; and
- 37 (c) is supplied to the electrical corporation administering the net metering program.
- 38 (3) "Customer generation system":
- 39 (a) means an eligible facility that is used to supply energy to or for a specific customer
40 that:
- 41 (i) has a generating capacity of:
- 42 (A) more than 1,200 watts but not more than 25 kilowatts for a residential facility;
43 or
- 44 (B) not more than two megawatts for a non-residential facility, unless the
45 governing authority approves a greater generation capacity;
- 46 (ii) is located on, or adjacent to, the premises of the electrical corporation's customer,
47 subject to the electrical corporation's service requirements;
- 48 (iii) operates in parallel and is interconnected with the electrical corporation's
49 distribution facilities;
- 50 (iv) is intended primarily to offset part or all of the customer's requirements for
51 electricity; and
- 52 (v) is controlled by an inverter;~~and~~
- 53 (b) includes an electric generator and its accompanying equipment package~~[-]~~; and
- 54 (c) does not include a portable solar generation device.
- 55 (4) "Eligible facility" means a facility that uses energy derived from one of the following to
56 generate electricity:
- 57 (a) solar photovoltaic and solar thermal energy;
- 58 (b) wind energy;
- 59 (c) hydrogen;
- 60 (d) organic waste;
- 61 (e) hydroelectric energy;
- 62 (f) waste gas and waste heat capture or recovery;

- 63 (g) biomass and biomass byproducts, except for the combustion of:
64 (i) wood that has been treated with chemical preservatives such as creosote,
65 pentachlorophenol, or chromated copper arsenate; or
66 (ii) municipal waste in a solid form;
- 67 (h) forest or rangeland woody debris from harvesting or thinning conducted to improve
68 forest or rangeland ecological health and to reduce wildfire risk;
- 69 (i) agricultural residues;
- 70 (j) dedicated energy crops;
- 71 (k) landfill gas or biogas produced from organic matter, wastewater, anaerobic digesters,
72 or municipal solid waste; or
- 73 (l) geothermal energy.
- 74 (5) "Equipment package" means a group of components connecting an electric generator to
75 an electric distribution system, including all interface equipment and the interface
76 equipment's controls, switchgear, inverter, and other interface devices.
- 77 (6) "Excess customer-generated electricity" means the amount of customer-generated
78 electricity in excess of the customer's consumption from the customer generation system
79 during a monthly billing period, as measured at the electrical corporation's meter.
- 80 (7) "Fuel cell" means a device in which the energy of a reaction between a fuel and an
81 oxidant is converted directly and continuously into electrical energy.
- 82 (8) "Governing authority" means:
- 83 (a) for a distribution electrical cooperative, its board of directors; and
84 (b) for each other electrical corporation, the Public Service Commission.
- 85 (9) "Inverter" means a device that:
- 86 (a) converts direct current power into alternating current power that is compatible with
87 power generated by an electrical corporation; and
88 (b) has been designed, tested, and certified to UL1741 and installed and operated in
89 accordance with the latest revision of IEEE1547, as amended.
- 90 (10) "Net electricity" means the difference, as measured at the meter owned by the
91 electrical corporation between:
- 92 (a) the amount of electricity that an electrical corporation supplies to a customer
93 participating in a net metering program; and
94 (b) the amount of customer-generated electricity delivered to the electrical corporation.
- 95 (11) "Net metering" means measuring the amount of net electricity for the applicable billing
96 period.

97 (12) "Net metering program" means a program administered by an electrical corporation
 98 whereby a customer with a customer generation system may:

99 (a) generate electricity primarily for the customer's own use;

100 (b) supply customer-generated electricity to the electrical corporation; and

101 (c) if net metering results in excess customer-generated electricity during a billing
 102 period, receive a credit as provided in Section 54-15-104.

103 (13) "Portable solar generation device" means a moveable photovoltaic generation device
 104 that:

105 (a) has a maximum power output of not more than 1,200 watts;

106 (b) is designed to be connected to a building's electrical system through a standard
 107 120-volt alternating current outlet;

108 (c) is intended primarily to offset part of the customer's electricity consumption; and

109 (d) meets the standards of the most recent version of the National Electrical Code; and

110 (e) is certified by Underwriters Laboratories or an equivalent nationally recognized
 111 testing laboratory.

112 [~~(13)~~] (14) "Switchgear" means the combination of electrical disconnects, fuses, or circuit
 113 breakers:

114 (a) used to:

115 (i) isolate electrical equipment; and

116 (ii) de-energize equipment to allow work to be performed or faults downstream to be
 117 cleared; and

118 (b) that is:

119 (i) designed, tested, and certified to UL1741; and

120 (ii) installed and operated in accordance with the latest revision of IEEE1547, as
 121 amended.

122 Section 2. Section **54-15-601** is enacted to read:

123 **Part 6. Portable Solar Generation Device**

124 **54-15-601 . Portable solar generation device -- Exemptions -- Requirements.**

125 (1) A portable solar generation device that meets the requirements of this part:

126 (a) is exempt from:

127 (i) the interconnection requirements described in Section 54-15-106; and

128 (ii) requirements to enter into an interconnection agreement under Section 54-15-103;

129 and

130 (b) is not subject to the net metering program requirements under this chapter.

- 131 (2) A portable solar generation device shall include a device or feature that prevents the
132 system from energizing the building's electrical system during a power outage.
- 133 (3) An electrical corporation:
- 134 (a) may not require a customer using a portable solar generation device to:
- 135 (i) obtain the electrical corporation's approval before installing or using the system;
- 136 (ii) pay any fee or charge related to the system; or
- 137 (iii) install any additional controls or equipment beyond what is integrated into the
138 system; and
- 139 (b) is not liable for any damage or injury caused by a portable solar generation device.

140 Section 3. **Effective Date.**

141 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.