♣ Approved for Filing: R.H. Rees♣ 01-02-24 4:22 PM♣ €

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY ACT
AMENDMENTS
2024 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Christine F. Watkins
Senate Sponsor: David P. Hinkins
LONG TITLE
General Description:
This bill modifies provisions of the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Act.
Highlighted Provisions:
This bill:
modifies the definition of "renewable energy system," for purposes of the
Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Act, to include a system that provides
energy outside the energy assessment area if the system is a biofuel system $\hat{H} \rightarrow [or does]$
not use the public electrical utility's power grid to transmit the energy] $\leftarrow \hat{H}$; and
makes technical changes.
Money Appropriated in this Bill:
None
Other Special Clauses:
None
Utah Code Sections Affected:
AMENDS:
11-42a-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 16
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
Section 1. Section 11-42a-102 is amended to read:



28	11-42a-102. Definitions.
29	(1) "Air quality standards" means that a vehicle's emissions are equal to or cleaner than
30	the standards established in bin 4 Table S04-1, of 40 C.F.R. 86.1811-04(c)(6).
31	(2) (a) "Assessment" means the assessment that a local entity or the C-PACE district
32	levies on private property under this chapter to cover the costs of an energy efficiency upgrade,
33	a renewable energy system, or an electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
34	(b) "Assessment" does not constitute a property tax but shares the same priority lien as
35	a property tax.
36	(3) "Assessment fund" means a special fund that a local entity establishes under
37	Section 11-42a-206.
38	(4) "Benefitted property" means private property within an energy assessment area that
39	directly benefits from improvements.
40	(5) "Bond" means an assessment bond and a refunding assessment bond.
41	(6) (a) "Commercial or industrial real property" means private real property used
42	directly or indirectly or held for one of the following purposes or activities, regardless of
43	whether the purpose or activity is for profit:
44	(i) commercial;
45	(ii) mining;
46	(iii) agricultural;
47	(iv) industrial;
48	(v) manufacturing;
49	(vi) trade;
50	(vii) professional;
51	(viii) a private or public club;
52	(ix) a lodge;
53	(x) a business; or
54	(xi) a similar purpose.
55	(b) "Commercial or industrial real property" includes:
56	(i) private real property that is used as or held for dwelling purposes and contains:
57	(A) more than four rental units; or
58	(B) one or more owner-occupied or rental condominium units affiliated with a hotel;

59	and
60	(ii) real property owned by:
61	(A) the military installation development authority, created in Section 63H-1-201; or
62	(B) the Utah Inland Port Authority, created in Section 11-58-201.
63	(7) "Contract price" means:
64	(a) up to 100% of the cost of installing, acquiring, refinancing, or reimbursing for an
65	improvement, as determined by the owner of the property benefitting from the improvement; or
66	(b) the amount payable to one or more contractors for the assessment, design,
67	engineering, inspection, and construction of an improvement.
68	(8) "C-PACE" means commercial property assessed clean energy.
69	(9) "C-PACE district" means the statewide authority established in Section 11-42a-106
70	to implement the C-PACE Act in collaboration with governing bodies, under the direction of
71	OED.
72	(10) "Electric vehicle charging infrastructure" means equipment that is:
73	(a) permanently affixed to commercial or industrial real property; and
74	(b) designed to deliver electric energy to a qualifying electric vehicle or a qualifying
75	plug-in hybrid vehicle.
76	(11) "Energy assessment area" means an area:
77	(a) within the jurisdictional boundaries of a local entity that approves an energy
78	assessment area or, if the C-PACE district or a state interlocal entity levies the assessment, the
79	C-PACE district or the state interlocal entity;
80	(b) containing only the commercial or industrial real property of owners who have
81	voluntarily consented to an assessment under this chapter for the purpose of financing the costs
82	of improvements that benefit property within the energy assessment area; and
83	(c) in which the proposed benefitted properties in the area are:
84	(i) contiguous; or
85	(ii) located on one or more contiguous or adjacent tracts of land that would be
86	contiguous or adjacent property but for an intervening right-of-way, including a sidewalk,
87	street, road, fixed guideway, or waterway.
88	(12) "Energy assessment bond" means a bond:
89	(a) issued under Section 11-42a-401; and

90	(b) payable in part or in whole from assessments levied in an energy assessment area.
91	(13) "Energy assessment lien" means a lien on property within an energy assessment
92	area that arises from the levy of an assessment in accordance with Section 11-42a-301.
93	(14) "Energy assessment ordinance" means an ordinance that a local entity adopts
94	under Section 11-42a-201 that:
95	(a) designates an energy assessment area;
96	(b) levies an assessment on benefitted property within the energy assessment area; and
97	(c) if applicable, authorizes the issuance of energy assessment bonds.
98	(15) "Energy assessment resolution" means one or more resolutions adopted by a local
99	entity under Section 11-42a-201 that:
100	(a) designates an energy assessment area;
101	(b) levies an assessment on benefitted property within the energy assessment area; and
102	(c) if applicable, authorizes the issuance of energy assessment bonds.
103	(16) "Energy efficiency upgrade" means an improvement that is:
104	(a) permanently affixed to commercial or industrial real property; and
105	(b) designed to reduce energy or water consumption, including:
106	(i) insulation in:
107	(A) a wall, roof, floor, or foundation; or
108	(B) a heating and cooling distribution system;
109	(ii) a window or door, including:
110	(A) a storm window or door;
111	(B) a multiglazed window or door;
112	(C) a heat-absorbing window or door;
113	(D) a heat-reflective glazed and coated window or door;
114	(E) additional window or door glazing;
115	(F) a window or door with reduced glass area; or
116	(G) other window or door modifications;
117	(iii) an automatic energy control system;
118	(iv) in a building or a central plant, a heating, ventilation, or air conditioning and
119	distribution system;
120	(v) caulk or weatherstripping;

01-02-24 4:22 PM H.B. 116

121	(vi) a light fixture that does not increase the overall illumination of a building, unless
122	an increase is necessary to conform with the applicable building code;
123	(vii) an energy recovery system;
124	(viii) a daylighting system;
125	(ix) measures to reduce the consumption of water, through conservation or more
126	efficient use of water, including installation of:
127	(A) low-flow toilets and showerheads;
128	(B) timer or timing systems for a hot water heater; or
129	(C) rain catchment systems;
130	(x) a modified, installed, or remodeled fixture that is approved as a utility cost-saving
131	measure by the governing body or executive of a local entity;
132	(xi) measures or other improvements to effect seismic upgrades;
133	(xii) structures, measures, or other improvements to provide automated parking or
134	parking that reduces land use;
135	(xiii) the extension of an existing natural gas distribution company line;
136	(xiv) an energy efficient elevator, escalator, or other vertical transport device;
137	(xv) any other improvement that the governing body or executive of a local entity
138	approves as an energy efficiency upgrade; or
139	(xvi) any improvement that relates physically or functionally to any of the
140	improvements listed in Subsections (16)(b)(i) through (xv).
141	(17) "Energy system" means a product, system, device, or interacting group of devices
142	that:
143	(a) produces or stores energy; and
144	(b) is permanently affixed to commercial or industrial real property not located in the
145	certified service area of a distribution electrical cooperative, as defined in Section 54-2-1.
146	[(17)] <u>(18)</u> "Governing body" means:
147	(a) for a county, city, town, or metro township, the legislative body of the county, city,
148	town, or metro township;
149	(b) for a special district, the board of trustees of the special district;
150	(c) for a special service district:
151	(i) if no administrative control board has been appointed under Section 17D-1-301, the

152	legislative body of the county, city, town, or metro township that established the special service
153	district; or
154	(ii) if an administrative control board has been appointed under Section 17D-1-301, the
155	administrative control board of the special service district;
156	(d) for the military installation development authority created in Section 63H-1-201,
157	the board, as that term is defined in Section 63H-1-102; and
158	(e) for the Utah Inland Port Authority, created in Section 11-58-201, the board, as
159	defined in Section 11-58-102.
160	[(18)] (19) "Improvement" means a publicly or privately owned energy efficiency
161	upgrade, renewable energy system, or electric vehicle charging infrastructure that:
162	(a) a property owner has requested; or
163	(b) has been or is being installed on a property for the benefit of the property owner.
164	[(19)] (20) "Incidental refunding costs" means any costs of issuing a refunding
165	assessment bond and calling, retiring, or paying prior bonds, including:
166	(a) legal and accounting fees;
167	(b) charges of financial advisors, escrow agents, certified public accountant verification
168	entities, and trustees;
169	(c) underwriting discount costs, printing costs, and the costs of giving notice;
170	(d) any premium necessary in the calling or retiring of prior bonds;
171	(e) fees to be paid to the local entity to issue the refunding assessment bond and to
172	refund the outstanding prior bonds;
173	(f) any other costs that the governing body determines are necessary and proper to incur
174	in connection with the issuance of a refunding assessment bond; and
175	(g) any interest on the prior bonds that is required to be paid in connection with the
176	issuance of the refunding assessment bond.
177	[(20)] (21) "Installment payment date" means the date on which an installment
178	payment of an assessment is payable.
179	[(21)] (22) "Jurisdictional boundaries" means:
180	(a) for the C-PACE district or any state interlocal entity, the boundaries of the state;
181	and
182	(b) for each local entity, the boundaries of the local entity.

01-02-24 4:22 PM H.B. 116

183	$\left[\frac{(22)}{(23)}\right]$ (a) "Local entity" means:
184	(i) a county, city, town, or metro township;
185	(ii) a special service district, a special district, or an interlocal entity as that term is
186	defined in Section 11-13-103;
187	(iii) a state interlocal entity;
188	(iv) the military installation development authority, created in Section 63H-1-201;
189	(v) the Utah Inland Port Authority, created in Section 11-58-201; or
190	(vi) any political subdivision of the state.
191	(b) "Local entity" includes the C-PACE district solely in connection with:
192	(i) the designation of an energy assessment area;
193	(ii) the levying of an assessment; and
194	(iii) the assignment of an energy assessment lien to a third-party lender under Section
195	11-42a-302.
196	[(23)] (24) "Local entity obligations" means energy assessment bonds and refunding
197	assessment bonds that a local entity issues.
198	[(24)] (25) "OED" means the Office of Energy Development created in Section
199	79-6-401.
200	$\left[\frac{(25)}{(26)}\right]$ "OEM vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section 19-1-402.
201	$[\frac{(26)}{(27)}]$ "Overhead costs" means the actual costs incurred or the estimated costs to
202	be incurred in connection with an energy assessment area, including:
203	(a) appraisals, legal fees, filing fees, facilitation fees, and financial advisory charges;
204	(b) underwriting fees, placement fees, escrow fees, trustee fees, and paying agent fees;
205	(c) publishing and mailing costs;
206	(d) costs of levying an assessment;
207	(e) recording costs; and
208	(f) all other incidental costs.
209	[(27)] (28) "Parameters resolution" means a resolution or ordinance that a local entity
210	adopts in accordance with Section 11-42a-201.
211	[(28)] (29) "Prior bonds" means the energy assessment bonds refunded in part or in
212	whole by a refunding assessment bond.
213	[(29)] (30) "Prior energy assessment ordinance" means the ordinance levying the

214	assessments from which the prior bonds are payable.
215	[(30)] (31) "Prior energy assessment resolution" means the resolution levying the
216	assessments from which the prior bonds are payable.
217	[(31)] (32) "Property" includes real property and any interest in real property, including
218	water rights and leasehold rights.
219	[(32)] (33) "Public electrical utility" means a large-scale electric utility as that term is
220	defined in Section 54-2-1.
221	[(33)] (34) "Qualifying electric vehicle" means a vehicle that:
222	(a) meets air quality standards;
223	(b) is not fueled by natural gas;
224	(c) draws propulsion energy from a battery with at least 10 kilowatt hours of capacity;
225	and
226	(d) is an OEM vehicle except that the vehicle is fueled by a fuel described in
227	Subsection (33)(c).
228	[(34)] (35) "Qualifying plug-in hybrid vehicle" means a vehicle that:
229	(a) meets air quality standards;
230	(b) is not fueled by natural gas or propane;
231	(c) has a battery capacity that meets or exceeds the battery capacity described in
232	Subsection 30D(b)(3), Internal Revenue Code; and
233	(d) is fueled by a combination of electricity and:
234	(i) diesel fuel;
235	(ii) gasoline; or
236	(iii) a mixture of gasoline and ethanol.
237	[(35)] (36) "Reduced payment obligation" means the full obligation of an owner of
238	property within an energy assessment area to pay an assessment levied on the property after the
239	local entity has reduced the assessment because of the issuance of a refunding assessment
240	bond, in accordance with Section 11-42a-403.
241	[(36)] (37) "Refunding assessment bond" means an assessment bond that a local entity
242	issues under Section 11-42a-403 to refund, in part or in whole, energy assessment bonds.
243	[(37)] (38) (a) "Renewable energy system" means [a product, system, device, or
244	interacting group of devices that is permanently affixed to commercial or industrial real

01-02-24 4:22 PM H.B. 116

245	property not located in the certified service area of a distribution electrical cooperative, as that
246	term is defined in Section 54-2-1, and] an energy system that:
247	(i) produces energy from renewable resources, including:
248	(A) a photovoltaic system;
249	(B) a solar thermal system;
250	(C) a wind system;
251	(D) a geothermal system, including a generation system, a direct-use system, or a
252	ground source heat pump system;
253	(E) a microhydro system;
254	(F) a biofuel system; or
255	(G) any other renewable source system that the governing body of the local entity
256	approves; <u>or</u>
257	(ii) stores energy, including:
258	(A) a battery storage system; or
259	(B) any other energy storing system that the governing body or chief executive officer
260	of a local entity approves[; or].
261	(b) [(iii) any] "Renewable energy system" includes an improvement that relates
262	physically or functionally to any of the products, systems, or devices listed in Subsection
263	[(37)(a)(i) or (ii)] <u>(38)(a)(i) or (ii)</u> .
264	[(b)] (c) "Renewable energy system" does not include a system described in Subsection
265	[(37)(a)(i)] $(38)(a)(i)$ if the system provides energy to property outside the energy assessment
266	area, unless the system:
267	(i) (A) existed before the creation of the energy assessment area; and
268	(B) beginning before January 1, 2017, provides energy to property outside of the area
269	that became the energy assessment area; [or]
270	(ii) provides energy to property outside the energy assessment area under an agreement
271	with a public electrical utility that is substantially similar to agreements for other renewable
272	energy systems that are not funded under this chapter $[\cdot]$: $\hat{H} \rightarrow \underline{or} \leftarrow \hat{H}$
273	(iii) is a biofuel system $\hat{H} \rightarrow [\underline{: or}] \underline{.} \leftarrow \hat{H}$
274	$\hat{H} \Rightarrow [\underline{\text{(iv)}}]$ does not use the public electrical utility's power grid to transmit power outside the
275	energy assessment area-l (#Ĥ

276	[(38)] (39) "Special district" means a special district under Title 17B, Limited Purpose
277	Local Government Entities - Special Districts.
278	[(39)] (40) "Special service district" means the same as that term is defined in Section
279	17D-1-102.
280	[(40)] <u>(41)</u> "State interlocal entity" means:
281	(a) an interlocal entity created under Chapter 13, Interlocal Cooperation Act, by two or
282	more counties, cities, towns, or metro townships that collectively represent at least a majority
283	of the state's population; or
284	(b) an entity that another state authorized, before January 1, 2017, to issue bonds,
285	notes, or other obligations or refunding obligations to finance or refinance projects in the state.
286	[(41)] (42) "Third-party lender" means a trust company, savings bank, savings and loan
287	association, bank, credit union, or any other entity that provides loans directly to property
288	owners for improvements authorized under this chapter.
289	Section 2. Effective date.
290	This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.