

JAN 23 2009

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 46-19.4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "~~+~~ §46-19.4 Priority permitting process for renewable
4 energy projects. ~~+~~ (a) All agencies shall provide priority
5 handling and processing for all county permits required for
6 renewable energy projects.

7 (b) Agencies shall expedite handling and processing of
8 building permits to install photovoltaic energy systems, whether
9 residential or commercial; provided that an application for a
10 building permit under this subsection shall be deemed approved,
11 if within sixty days of receipt of the application for a
12 building permit for an existing structure or one hundred twenty
13 days for a new structure, the agency has not taken action to
14 grant or deny the application, notwithstanding section 91-13.5.

15 (c) For purposes of this section ~~["agencies"]~~:

16 "Agencies" means any executive department, independent
17 commission, board, bureau, office, or other establishment of a



1 county, or any quasi-public institution that is supported in
2 whole or in part by county funds.

3 "Photovoltaic energy systems" means any identifiable
4 facility, equipment, apparatus, or the like, that makes use of
5 solar energy for heating, cooling, or reducing the use of other
6 types of energy dependent upon fossil fuel for generation, but
7 not including skylights or windows."

8 SECTION 2. Section 196-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "[+]§196-1.5 **Priority permitting process for renewable**
11 **energy projects.** [H] (a) All agencies shall provide priority
12 handling and processing for all state permits required for
13 renewable energy projects.

14 (b) Agencies shall expedite handling and processing of
15 permits to install photovoltaic energy systems, whether
16 residential or commercial; provided that an application for a
17 permit under this subsection shall be deemed approved, if within
18 sixty days of receipt of the application for a permit for an
19 existing structure or one hundred twenty days for a new
20 structure, the agency has not taken action to grant or deny the
21 application, notwithstanding section 91-13.5.

22 (c) For purposes of this section [~~,"agencies"~~]:



1 "Agencies" means any executive department, independent
 2 commission, board, bureau, office, or other establishment of the
 3 State, or any quasi-public institution that is supported in
 4 whole or in part by state funds.

5 "Photovoltaic energy systems" means any identifiable
 6 facility, equipment, apparatus, or the like, that makes use of
 7 solar energy for heating, cooling, or reducing the use of other
 8 types of energy dependent upon fossil fuel for generation, but
 9 not including skylights or windows."

10 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
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Report Title:

Photovoltaic Systems; State and County Permits

Description:

Requires expedited residential and commercial building permit or for any state permit approval process for installation of photovoltaic systems. Provides for approval by law if permit application is not granted or denied within sixty days for existing structures and within one hundred twenty days for new structures.

