
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PHOTOVOLTAIC INTERCONNECTION TASK FORCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that modernizing the
2 electrical grid is essential to meeting Hawaii's clean energy
3 and self-sufficiency goals, however, it is the public utilities
4 commission that is entrusted with increased authority and
5 discretion to implement the State's clean energy policies. Act
6 109, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, directs the public utilities
7 commission to expedite movement towards advanced grid
8 modernization, which includes maximizing interconnection of
9 distributed generation and commencing regulatory actions to
10 address the associated technical, policy, and economic issues.
11 The legislature further finds a need for greater oversight of
12 the public utilities commission, and a public interest in
13 expediting independent reports addressing the photovoltaic
14 interconnection issues that are stifling renewable progress in
15 Hawaii.

16 The purpose of this Act is to establish a photovoltaic
17 interconnection task force to address interconnection issues



1 with increased transparency achieved by engaging technical
2 experts, academics, and key industry players, independent of the
3 public utilities commission's direction, to expeditiously
4 evaluate current interconnection opportunities, including
5 developing guidelines and a timeframe for renewable energy
6 interconnection across the state.

7 SECTION 2. (a) There is created the photovoltaic
8 interconnection task force.

9 (b) The task force shall consist of designees from the
10 following groups:

- 11 (1) University of Hawaii's Natural Energy Institute;
- 12 (2) Hawaii Solar Energy Industries Association;
- 13 (3) Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance;
- 14 (4) The Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative;
- 15 (5) Blue Planet Foundation;
- 16 (6) American Electric, LLC;
- 17 (7) Bonterra Solar Hawaii, LLC;
- 18 (8) Eco Solar LLC;
- 19 (9) Haleakala Solar, INC.;
- 20 (10) RevoluSun, LLC;
- 21 (11) Rising Sun Solar, LLC;



1 (12) Sunetric Capital, LLC; and

2 (13) Sunrun, Inc.

3 (c) The task force shall:

4 (1) Examine the interconnection reports presented by
5 the public utilities commission;

6 (2) Develop guidelines for effective
7 interconnection across the state; and

8 (3) Present realistic timeframes for statewide
9 interconnection.

10 (d) The task force shall be administratively placed in the
11 office of the auditor. The auditor shall initiate the
12 organization of and provide staff support for the task force.

13 (e) The members of the task force shall serve without
14 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including
15 travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

16 The reimbursements shall be made by the auditor, who shall
17 submit a request to the legislature for an appropriation equal
18 to the reimbursements made and expected to be made. The auditor
19 shall submit the requests for inclusion in the legislative
20 budget act of 2016.



1 (f) The task force shall submit an initial interim report
2 to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
3 convening of the regular session of 2016. The interim reports
4 shall include:

5 (1) Identification of opportunities for interconnection
6 improvements.

7 (2) Guidelines and timeframes for interconnections over
8 the next ten years.

9 (g) The task force shall submit a final report of its
10 findings and recommendations to the legislature, including any
11 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
12 convening of the regular session of 2017.

13 (h) The task force shall be dissolved on June 30, 2017.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY:

[Handwritten signatures: Bill, Jim Smith, Rick Lewis]

[Handwritten signature: Jim Wood]

[Handwritten signatures: A. Jopola, RL McArthur]

[Handwritten signatures: Paul Skay, Felix Pouch, Tom Brown]



Report Title:

Renewable Energy; Photovoltaic Interconnection; Task Force.

Description:

Establishes a photovoltaic interconnection task force comprised of stakeholders, academics, and technical experts independent of the public utilities commission, to present reports to the legislature.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

