
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO REQUIRE THAT ALL DOCUMENTS, TESTIMONY, AND VISUAL DISPLAYS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION, IN CONNECTION WITH A DOCKET INCLUDE ACCURATE INFORMATION ON THE NET OR PROJECTED ENERGY GENERATION IN ADDITION TO THE NAMEPLATE CAPACITY.

1 WHEREAS, section 269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
2 each electric utility company to establish a renewable portfolio
3 standard of one hundred percent of its net electricity sales by
4 December 31, 2045; and

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6 WHEREAS, a statewide survey shows that eighty-five percent
7 of the public supports developing more sources of renewable
8 energy in Hawaii; and

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10 WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Commission regulates all
11 chartered, franchised, certificated, and registered public
12 utility companies operating in the State; reviews and approves
13 rates, tariffs, charges and fees; determines the allowable rate
14 of earnings in establishing rates; issues guidelines concerning
15 the general management of franchised or certificated utility
16 businesses; and acts on requests for the acquisition, sale,
17 disposition or other exchange of utility properties, including
18 mergers and consolidations; and

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20 WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this body that
21 information made available to the public may be unclear on the
22 distinction between nameplate capacity and rated output; and

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24 WHEREAS, renewable energy projects which lack clarity on
25 the ability of the project to produce energy may discourage
26 public support for the project; and

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28 WHEREAS, the public has a right to accurate and readily
29 comprehensible information about energy projects in order to
30 submit informed testimony on a docket; and



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2 WHEREAS, statewide wind production capacity is estimated to
3 be 171 megawatts by nameplate capacity but the actual energy
4 capacity is estimated to be only thirty-two percent of that
5 amount; and

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7 WHEREAS, for solar photovoltaics and wind power, the
8 calculations of the nameplate capacity or rated output do not
9 usually represent the actual energy generation; and

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11 WHEREAS, the public can be misled due to a lack of
12 awareness of the difference between a project's advertised
13 nameplate capacity and a project's net energy generation; and

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15 WHEREAS, net generation refers to the amount of gross
16 electricity generation a generator produces minus the
17 electricity used to operate the power plant such as fuel
18 handling equipment, water pumps, combustion and cooling air
19 fans; pollution control equipment; and other electricity needs;
20 now, therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
24 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that the Public Utilities
25 Commission is urged to require that all documents, testimony,
26 and visual displays submitted to the Commission in connection
27 with a docket include accurate information on the net or
28 projected energy generation in addition to the nameplate
29 capacity; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all applicable discussions
32 during public meetings of the Public Utilities Commission refer
33 to the net or projected energy generation in addition to the
34 nameplate capacity; and

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H.C.R. NO. 140

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director
 3 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Chair of the
 4 Public Utilities Commission; and Hawaii State Energy Office.

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