

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1073

Introduced by Assembly Member Fuentes

February 18, 2011

An act to amend Section 2864 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to solar energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1073, as introduced, Fuentes. Solar Water Heating and Efficiency Act of 2007.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including gas corporations. Existing law establishes the Solar Water Heating and Efficiency Act of 2007 (the act), which requires the commission to evaluate the data available from a specified pilot project, and, if, after a public hearing, the commission determines that a solar water heating program is cost effective for ratepayers and in the public interest, requires the commission to design and implement a program applicable to the service territories of a gas corporation, to achieve the goal of installing 200,000 solar water heating systems in homes and businesses throughout the state by 2017. Existing law requires the commission, in consultation with the Energy Commission and interested members of the public, to establish eligibility criteria for solar water heating systems receiving gas customer funded incentives pursuant to the act.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those eligibility criteria provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2864 of the Public Utilities Code is
2 amended to read:

3 2864. (a) ~~The commission, in~~ *In* consultation with the Energy
4 Commission and interested members of the public, *the commission*
5 shall establish eligibility criteria for solar water heating systems
6 receiving gas customer funded incentives pursuant to this article.
7 The criteria should specify and include all of the following:

8 (1) Design, installation, and energy output or displacement
9 standards. To be eligible for rebate funding, a residential solar
10 water heating system shall, at a minimum, have a SRCC OG-300
11 Solar Water Heating System Certification. Solar collectors used
12 in systems for multifamily residential, commercial, or industrial
13 water heating shall, at a minimum, have a SRCC OG-100 Solar
14 Water Heating System Certification.

15 (2) Require that solar water heating system components are new
16 and unused, and have not previously been placed in service in any
17 other location or for any other application.

18 (3) Require that solar water heating collectors have a warranty
19 of not less than 10 years to protect against defects and undue
20 degradation.

21 (4) Require that solar water heating systems are in buildings
22 connected to a natural gas utility’s distribution system within the
23 state.

24 (5) Require that solar water heating systems have meters or
25 other kWh_{th} measuring devices in place to monitor and measure
26 the system’s performance and the quantity of energy generated or
27 displaced by the system. The criteria shall require meters for
28 systems with a capacity for displacing over 30 kW_{th}. The criteria
29 may require meters for systems with a capacity of 30 kW_{th} or
30 smaller.

31 (6) Require that solar water heating systems are installed in
32 conformity with the manufacturer’s specifications and all
33 applicable codes and standards.

34 (b) ~~No gas~~ *Gas* customer funded incentives shall *not* be made
35 for a solar water heating system that does not meet the eligibility
36 criteria.

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