

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 27, 2011

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 31, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1302

Introduced by Assembly Member Williams

February 18, 2011

~~An act to add Section 713 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to electricity. An act to add Section 25235 to the Public Resources Code, relating to electricity.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1302, as amended, Williams. ~~Electricity distribution grid upgrade plan.~~ *Distributed generation.*

The existing Warren-Alquist State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Act establishes the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission). Existing law requires the Energy Commission to undertake a continuing assessment of trends in the consumption of electricity and other forms of energy and to analyze the social, economic, and environmental consequences of those trends and to collect from electric utilities, gas utilities, and fuel producers and wholesalers and other sources, forecasts of future supplies and consumption of all forms of energy.

This bill would require each large electrical corporation, as defined, and large local publicly owned electric utility, as defined, to provide maps and other information identifying and designating zones within their respective service territories that are optimal for deployment of distributed generation to the Energy Commission, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), if on electrical Corporation, and the Independent

System Operator, by December 31, 2012. The bill would require the Energy Commission, in consultation with the PUC, to develop guidelines for those electrical utilities to utilize in creating maps and other information identifying and designating those zones. The bill would require the Energy Commission to review each electrical utility’s designation of zones and approve or disapprove the designation of zones made by each electrical utility. The bill would require, upon approval by the Energy Commission, that each electrical utility make this information available on its Internet Web site. The bill would require state agencies to give priority for the approval of distributed generation projects proposed to be located within a zone designated pursuant to these provisions.

~~(1) Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations:~~

~~The bill would require an electrical corporation to complete a distribution grid upgrade plan, pursuant to a specified schedule, in order to accommodate the increasing number of wholesale distributed generation projects expected to be created under new and existing renewable energy programs:~~

~~Because a violation by an electrical corporation of the bill’s requirements would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program:~~

~~(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.~~

~~This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason:~~

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 25235 is added to the Public Resources
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 25235. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms
- 4 have the following meanings:
- 5 (1) “Large electrical corporation” means an electrical
- 6 corporation, as defined in Section 218 of the Public Utilities Code,
- 7 that sells electricity at retail to 75,000 or more customers.

1 (2) “Large local publicly owned electric utility” means a local
2 publicly owned electric utility, as defined in Section 224.3 of the
3 Public Utilities Code, that sells electricity at retail to 75,000 or
4 more customers.

5 (b) (1) (A) The commission, in consultation with the Public
6 Utilities Commission, shall develop guidelines for large electrical
7 corporations and large publicly owned electric utilities in creating
8 maps and other information that identify and designate zones
9 within their respective service territories that are optimal for
10 deployment of distributed generation.

11 (B) The guidelines shall require a large electrical corporation
12 or large publicly owned electric utility to include all of the
13 following in maps and other information identifying and
14 designating zones:

15 (i) The location of primary distribution lines, distribution
16 substations, and transmission facilities.

17 (ii) Identification numbers for specific substations and lines.

18 (iii) Nominal circuit voltage.

19 (iv) Maximum normal circuit capacity in the summer.

20 (v) Amount of distributed generation existing on the circuit.

21 (vi) Difference between the maximum normal circuit capacity
22 in the summer and the sum of the allocated capacity substation
23 transformer bank rating that the circuit is connected to.

24 (vii) Maximum normal substation transformer bank rating for
25 the summer.

26 (viii) Projected peak load for the substation transformer bank
27 for the summer.

28 (ix) Amount of distributed generation existing on the substation
29 transformer.

30 (x) Any distribution circuit with generation interconnection
31 potential for one megawatt, two megawatt, three megawatt, and
32 five megawatt distributed generation facilities.

33 (xi) Known areas of transmission system constraints.

34 (xii) Known areas where short circuit duty levels are near
35 equipment short circuit duty limitations.

36 (2) (A) On or before December 31, 2012, each large electrical
37 corporation shall provide the commission, the Public Utilities
38 Commission, and the Independent System Operator, and each
39 large publicly owned electric utility shall provide the commission
40 and the Independent System Operator, with maps and other

1 information identifying and designating those zones within their
2 respective service territories that if each utility determines are
3 optimal for deployment of distributed generation. The commission
4 shall review each utility's designation of zones that are optimal
5 for deployment of distributed generation and approve or
6 disapprove the designation of zones made by each utility. If
7 disapproved, the commission shall indicate in what manner the
8 designation should be revised and order the utility to promptly
9 submit a designation that corrects the deficiency.

10 (B) If a large electrical corporation or large publicly owned
11 electric utility does not provide the commission with the
12 information described in subparagraph (A) on or before December
13 31, 2012, the commission shall identify and designate those zones
14 within the service territory of the large electrical corporation or
15 the large publicly owned electric utility that the commission
16 determines are optimal for deployment of distributed generation,
17 and shall impose a fee on the large electrical corporation or large
18 publicly owned electric utility to recoup reasonable costs incurred
19 by the commission in identifying and designating the zones.

20 (3) Upon approval by the commission, each large electrical
21 corporation and large publicly owned electric utility shall make
22 this information available on its Internet Web site so that the
23 information appears when a term search is performed on that
24 Internet Web site using the term "distributed generation."

25 (4) Each large electrical corporation and large publicly owned
26 electric utility shall periodically update its designation of zones
27 that are optimal for deployment of distributed generation, as
28 circumstances change, and provide this information to the
29 commission and make that information available on the utility's
30 Internet Web site.

31 (c) All state agencies shall give priority for the approval of
32 distributed generation projects proposed to be located within a
33 zone designated pursuant to this section.

34 SECTION 1. Section 713 is added to the Public Utilities Code,
35 to read:

36 713. ~~(a) As used in this section, "wholesale distributed~~
37 ~~generation" means renewable energy generation that interconnects~~
38 ~~to the distribution grid and provides electricity to an electrical~~
39 ~~corporation.~~

1 ~~(b) An electrical corporation shall complete a distribution grid~~
2 ~~upgrade plan, extending for a three-year period from the date of~~
3 ~~completion of the plan, in order to accommodate the increasing~~
4 ~~number of wholesale distributed generation projects expected to~~
5 ~~be created under new and existing renewable energy programs.~~
6 ~~The first plan shall be due no later than July 1, 2012. An updated~~
7 ~~plan shall be due every two years thereafter. Interested parties shall~~
8 ~~be allowed to comment on each plan prior to its finalization.~~

9 ~~SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to~~
10 ~~Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because~~
11 ~~the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school~~
12 ~~district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or~~
13 ~~infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty~~
14 ~~for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of~~
15 ~~the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within~~
16 ~~the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California~~
17 ~~Constitution.~~