

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 27, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2296**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Saldana**

February 18, 2010

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An act to amend Section 25782 of the Public Resources Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2296, as amended, Saldana. Energy: solar energy systems.

Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in consultation with specified entities, to establish eligibility criteria for solar energy systems receiving ratepayer funded incentives including, among other things, that the solar energy system be located on the same premises of the end-use consumer where the consumer's own electricity demand is located.

This bill would expand the eligibility to include a solar energy system that is located on a near-site location to the end-use consumer.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 25782 of the Public Resources Code is  
2 amended to read:  
3 25782. (a) The commission shall, by January 1, 2008, in  
4 consultation with the Public Utilities Commission, local publicly  
5 owned electric utilities, and interested members of the public,

- 1 establish eligibility criteria for solar energy systems receiving  
2 ratepayer funded incentives that include all of the following:
- 3 (1) Design, installation, and electrical output standards or  
4 incentives.
  - 5 (2) The solar energy system is intended primarily to offset part  
6 or all of the consumer’s own electricity demand.
  - 7 (3) All components in the solar energy system are new and  
8 unused, and have not previously been placed in service in any  
9 other location or for any other application.
  - 10 (4) The solar energy system has a warranty of not less than 10  
11 years to protect against defects and undue degradation of electrical  
12 generation output.
  - 13 (5) The solar energy system is located on the same premises of,  
14 or is located on a near-site location to, the end-use consumer where  
15 the consumer’s own electricity demand is located. *As used in this*  
16 *paragraph, “near-site” means located on or adjacent to the*  
17 *customer’s owned, leased, or rented premises.*
  - 18 (6) The solar energy system is connected to the electrical  
19 corporation’s electrical distribution system within the state.
  - 20 (7) The solar energy system has meters or other devices in place  
21 to monitor and measure the system’s performance and the quantity  
22 of electricity generated by the system.
  - 23 (8) The solar energy system is installed in conformance with  
24 the manufacturer’s specifications and in compliance with all  
25 applicable electrical and building code standards.
- 26 (b) The commission shall establish conditions on ratepayer  
27 funded incentives that require all of the following:
- 28 (1) Appropriate siting and high quality installation of the solar  
29 energy system by developing installation guidelines that maximize  
30 the performance of the system and prevent qualified systems from  
31 being inefficiently or inappropriately installed. The conditions  
32 established by the commission shall not impact housing designs  
33 or densities presently authorized by a city, county, or city and  
34 county. The goal of this paragraph is to achieve efficient  
35 installation of solar energy systems to promote the greatest energy  
36 production per ratepayer dollar.
  - 37 (2) Optimal solar energy system performance during periods of  
38 peak electricity demand.

1 (3) Appropriate energy efficiency improvements in the new or  
2 existing home or commercial structure where the solar energy  
3 system is installed.

4 (c) The commission shall set rating standards for equipment,  
5 components, and systems to assure reasonable performance and  
6 shall develop standards that provide for compliance with the  
7 minimum ratings.

8 (d) Upon establishment of eligibility criteria pursuant to  
9 subdivision (a), ratepayer funded incentives shall not be made for  
10 a solar energy system that does not meet the eligibility criteria.

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