

[Second Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2816

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

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Sponsored by:

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District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator JOHN F. MCKEON

District 27 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Requires electric public utilities to submit to BPU and implement electric infrastructure improvement plans.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on May 13, 2024.



1 AN ACT concerning distributed energy sources and supplementing
2 Title 48 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. As used in this section:

8 "Board" means the Board of Public Utilities.

9 "Reactive power" means the portion of alternating current
10 electricity, measured in volt-amperes reactive, that cannot do useful
11 work due to a misalignment of the current and voltage waveforms of
12 the electricity.

13 b. The Board of Public Utilities shall require each electric public
14 utility to file, no later than ²[90] 120² days after the effective date of
15 this act, an electric infrastructure improvement plan, in accordance
16 with procedures established by the board. The purpose of the plans
17 shall be to reopen many of the State's electric distribution circuits that
18 have been closed to any additional renewable energy installations, or
19 restricted to 100 kilowatts or less of remaining circuit capacity. ¹A
20 plan shall not be required to include infrastructure improvements to the
21 electric transmission system.¹ Each plan shall include provisions for:

22 (1) permitting the flow of electricity, through an electrical
23 substation, from the distribution system to the transmission system;

24 (2) requiring ²those² solar inverters ²that are located on closed
25 circuits² to ²[include, activate, and utilize all available] utilize
26 standard smart² inverter technology that allows the inverter to inject
27 and absorb reactive power ²[autonomously or in response to remote
28 control]² ;

29 (3) requiring ²those² energy storage systems ²that are located on
30 closed circuits² to ²[include, activate, and utilize all available] utilize
31 standard smart² inverter technology that allows the energy storage
32 system to inject and absorb real and reactive power; ²and²

33 (4) ²[requiring solar photovoltaic systems to include, activate, and
34 use technology and services that enable the power output of the system
35 to respond to short-term predictions of weather conditions to control
36 the rate of change of power output or other system parameters; and

37 (5)² any additional low-cost and highly actionable ²[potential
38 solutions] non-wires alternatives² identified by an electric public
39 utility ²as a potential means² to reopen closed electric distribution
40 circuits to renewable energy installations.

41 c. No later than ²[120] 300² days after the effective date of this
42 act, the board shall review and ²may² approve, ¹[or]¹ approve with
43 modifications, ¹or disapprove¹ each electric infrastructure
44 improvement plan ²that the board deems to be complete² . As a

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEN committee amendments adopted March 4, 2024.

²Senate floor amendments adopted May 13, 2024.

1 condition of approval, the board shall require each electric public
2 utility to ²:

3 (1) submit performance metrics and reports to the board, showing
4 whether the implementation of the electric infrastructure improvement
5 plan has resulted in additional distributed energy resource
6 interconnection approvals, including an accounting of all
7 interconnection approvals, the types of distributed energy resource
8 projects that were approved, and the total capacity of distributed
9 energy resource projects that were approved because of the
10 implementation of the plan, and

11 (2)² schedule the associated work to be completed ²in a reasonable
12 and prudent manner² at the earliest date possible.

13

14 2. This act shall take effect immediately.