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SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, No. 1925

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

ADOPTED MAY 17, 2012

Sponsored by: Senator BOB SMITH District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset) Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem) Assemblyman UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset) Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON District 27 (Essex and Morris) Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY District 27 (Essex and Morris) Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by: Senators Buono, Whelan, Assemblymen Singleton, Egan, Conaway and DeAngelo

SYNOPSIS

Revises certain solar renewable energy programs and requirements; provides for aggregated net metering of electricity consumption related to properties owned by certain governmental bodies and school districts.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on June 25, 2012

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/26/2012)

AN ACT concerning ² [net] <u>certain electric customer</u>² metering and 1 2 solar renewable portfolio standards requirements and amending 3 P.L.1999, c.23. 4 5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 6 of New Jersey: 7 8 1. Section 3 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51) is amended to read 9 as follows: 10 3. As used in P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.): 11 "Assignee" means a person to which an electric public utility or 12 another assignee assigns, sells or transfers, other than as security, 13 all or a portion of its right to or interest in bondable transition Except as specifically provided in P.L.1999, c.23 14 property. 15 (C.48:3-49 et al.), an assignee shall not be subject to the public 16 utility requirements of Title 48 or any rules or regulations adopted 17 pursuant thereto; 18 "Base load electric power generation facility" means an electric 19 power generation facility intended to be operated at a greater than 50 percent capacity factor including, but not limited to, a combined 20 21 cycle power facility and a combined heat and power facility; 22 "Base residual auction" means the auction conducted by PJM, as 23 part of PJM's reliability pricing model, three years prior to the start 24 of the delivery year to secure electrical capacity as necessary to 25 satisfy the capacity requirements for that delivery year; 26 "Basic gas supply service" means gas supply service that is provided to any customer that has not chosen an alternative gas 27 28 supplier, whether or not the customer has received offers as to 29 competitive supply options, including, but not limited to, any 30 customer that cannot obtain such service for any reason, including 31 non-payment for services. Basic gas supply service is not a 32 competitive service and shall be fully regulated by the board; 33 "Basic generation service" or "BGS" means electric generation 34 service that is provided, to any customer that has not chosen an alternative electric power supplier, whether or not the customer has 35 36 received offers for competitive supply options, including, but not 37 limited to, any customer that cannot obtain such service from an 38 electric power supplier for any reason, including non-payment for 39 services. Basic generation service is not a competitive service and 40 shall be fully regulated by the board; 41 "Basic generation service provider" or "provider" means a 42 provider of basic generation service; 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 <u>thus</u> is new matter.

- Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
- Senate floor amendments adopted May 24, 2012.
- ² Assembly ATU committee amendments adopted June 7, 2012.
- ³ Assembly floor amendments adopted June 21, 2012.

⁴ Senate floor amendments adopted June 25, 2012.

"Basic generation service transition costs" means the amount by 1 2 which the payments by an electric public utility for the procurement 3 of power for basic generation service and related ancillary and 4 administrative costs exceeds the net revenues from the basic 5 generation service charge established by the board pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-57) during the transition period, 6 7 together with interest on the balance at the board-approved rate, that 8 is reflected in a deferred balance account approved by the board in 9 an order addressing the electric public utility's unbundled rates, 10 stranded costs, and restructuring filings pursuant to P.L.1999, c.23 11 (C.48:3-49 et al.). Basic generation service transition costs shall 12 include, but are not limited to, costs of purchases from the spot 13 market, bilateral contracts, contracts with non-utility generators, 14 parting contracts with the purchaser of the electric public utility's 15 divested generation assets, short-term advance purchases, and 16 financial instruments such as hedging, forward contracts, and 17 options. Basic generation service transition costs shall also include 18 the payments by an electric public utility pursuant to a competitive 19 procurement process for basic generation service supply during the 20 transition period, and costs of any such process used to procure the 21 basic generation service supply;

"Board" means the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities or anysuccessor agency;

24 "Bondable stranded costs" means any stranded costs or basic 25 generation service transition costs of an electric public utility 26 approved by the board for recovery pursuant to the provisions of 27 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.), together with, as approved by the 28 board: (1) the cost of retiring existing debt or equity capital of the 29 electric public utility, including accrued interest, premium and other 30 fees, costs and charges relating thereto, with the proceeds of the 31 financing of bondable transition property; (2) if requested by an 32 electric public utility in its application for a bondable stranded costs 33 rate order, federal, State and local tax liabilities associated with 34 stranded costs recovery or basic generation service transition cost 35 recovery or the transfer or financing of such property or both, 36 including taxes, whose recovery period is modified by the effect of 37 a stranded costs recovery order, a bondable stranded costs rate order 38 or both; and (3) the costs incurred to issue, service or refinance 39 transition bonds, including interest, acquisition or redemption 40 premium, and other financing costs, whether paid upon issuance or 41 over the life of the transition bonds, including, but not limited to, 42 credit enhancements, service charges, overcollateralization, interest 43 rate cap, swap or collar, yield maintenance, maturity guarantee or 44 other hedging agreements, equity investments, operating costs and 45 other related fees, costs and charges, or to assign, sell or otherwise 46 transfer bondable transition property;

"Bondable stranded costs rate order" means one or more 1 2 irrevocable written orders issued by the board pursuant to P.L.1999, 3 c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.) which determines the amount of bondable 4 stranded costs and the initial amount of transition bond charges 5 authorized to be imposed to recover such bondable stranded costs, 6 including the costs to be financed from the proceeds of the 7 transition bonds, as well as on-going costs associated with servicing 8 and credit enhancing the transition bonds, and provides the electric 9 public utility specific authority to issue or cause to be issued, 10 directly or indirectly, transition bonds through a financing entity 11 and related matters as provided in P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.), 12 which order shall become effective immediately upon the written 13 consent of the related electric public utility to such order as 14 provided in P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.);

15 "Bondable transition property" means the property consisting of 16 the irrevocable right to charge, collect and receive, and be paid 17 from collections of, transition bond charges in the amount necessary 18 to provide for the full recovery of bondable stranded costs which 19 are determined to be recoverable in a bondable stranded costs rate 20 order, all rights of the related electric public utility under such bondable stranded costs rate order including, without limitation, all 21 22 rights to obtain periodic adjustments of the related transition bond 23 charges pursuant to subsection b. of section 15 of P.L.1999, c.23 24 (C.48:3-64), and all revenues, collections, payments, money and 25 proceeds arising under, or with respect to, all of the foregoing;

"British thermal unit" or "Btu" means the amount of heat
required to increase the temperature of one pound of water by one
degree Fahrenheit;

29 "Broker" means a duly licensed electric power supplier that 30 assumes the contractual and legal responsibility for the sale of 31 electric generation service, transmission or other services to end-use 32 retail customers, but does not take title to any of the power sold, or 33 a duly licensed gas supplier that assumes the contractual and legal 34 obligation to provide gas supply service to end-use retail customers, 35 but does not take title to the gas;

<u>"Brownfield" means any former or current commercial or</u>
 <u>industrial site that is currently vacant or underutilized and on which</u>
 there has been, or there is suspected to have been, a discharge of ³a³
 <u>contaminant</u> ⁴[,]⁴ ³[as included in the "Brownfields
 Redevelopment Task Force" inventory, developed pursuant to
 <u>section 5 of P.L.1997, c.278 (C.58:10B-23]³;</u>

"Buydown" means an arrangement or arrangements involving the
buyer and seller in a given power purchase contract and, in some
cases third parties, for consideration to be given by the buyer in
order to effectuate a reduction in the pricing, or the restructuring of
other terms to reduce the overall cost of the power contract, for the

remaining succeeding period of the purchased power arrangement
 or arrangements;

"Buyout" means an arrangement or arrangements involving the
buyer and seller in a given power purchase contract and, in some
cases third parties, for consideration to be given by the buyer in
order to effectuate a termination of such power purchase contract;

7 "Class I renewable energy" means electric energy produced from 8 solar technologies, photovoltaic technologies, wind energy, fuel 9 cells, geothermal technologies, wave or tidal action, small scale hydropower facilities with a capacity of three megawatts or less and 10 11 put into service after the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), and methane gas from 12 13 landfills or a biomass facility, provided that the biomass is 14 cultivated and harvested in a sustainable manner;

15 "Class II renewable energy" means electric energy produced at a 16 [resource recovery facility or] hydropower facility with a capacity of greater than three megawatts or a resource recovery facility, 17 18 provided that such facility is located where retail competition is permitted and provided further that the Commissioner of 19 Environmental Protection has determined that such facility meets 20 21 the highest environmental standards and minimizes any impacts to 22 the environment and local communities;

"Co-generation" means the sequential production of electricity
and steam or other forms of useful energy used for industrial or
commercial heating and cooling purposes;

26 "Combined cycle power facility" means a generation facility that 27 combines two or more thermodynamic cycles, by producing electric 28 power via the combustion of fuel and then routing the resulting 29 waste heat by-product to a conventional boiler or to a heat recovery 30 steam generator for use by a steam turbine to produce electric 31 power, thereby increasing the overall efficiency of the generating 32 facility;

"Combined heat and power facility" or "co-generation facility"
means a generation facility which produces electric energy[,] and
steam[,] or other forms of useful energy such as heat, which are
used for industrial or commercial heating or cooling purposes. A
combined heat and power facility or co-generation facility shall not
be considered a public utility;

"Competitive service" means any service offered by an electric
public utility or a gas public utility that the board determines to be
competitive pursuant to section 8 or section 10 of P.L.1999, c.23
(C.48:3-56 or C.48:3-58) or that is not regulated by the board;

"Commercial and industrial energy pricing class customer" or
"CIEP class customer" means that group of non-residential
customers with high peak demand, as determined by periodic board
order, which either is eligible or which would be eligible, as
determined by periodic board order, to receive funds from the Retail

Margin Fund established pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1999, c.23 1 2 (C.48:3-57) and for which basic generation service is hourly-priced; 3 "Comprehensive resource analysis" means an analysis including, 4 but not limited to, an assessment of existing market barriers to the 5 implementation of energy efficiency and renewable technologies that are not or cannot be delivered to customers through a 6 7 competitive marketplace; 8 "Connected to the distribution system" means, for a solar electric power generation facility, ²that² the facility is: (1) connected to a 9 net metering customer's side of a meter, regardless of the voltage at 10 which that customer connects to the electric grid³[;], (2) an on-11 site generation facility³[;],³ (3) qualified for ²[virtual]² net 12 metering aggregation as provided pursuant to paragraph (4) of 13 subsection e. of section 38 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-87)³[;], ^{3 2}(4) 14 owned or operated by an electric public utility and approved by the 15 board pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1)² ³[; 16 or] $\frac{3}{2}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{5}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ directly connected to the electric grid at 69 17 kilovolts or less, regardless of how an electric public utility 18 classifies that portion of its electric grid, and is designated as 19 ³[connected] "connected³ to the distribution ³[system] system"³ 20 by the board pursuant to subsections q. through s. of section 38 of 21 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-87), or ${}^{3}(6)^{3}$ is certified by the board 4, in 22 consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection,⁴ as 23 being located on a brownfield ³[², an existing or proposed 24 commercial, retail, industrial, municipal, professional, recreational, 25 transit, commuter, entertainment complex, multi-use, or mixed-use 26 27 parking lot with a capacity to park 350 or more vehicles where the 28 area to be utilized for the facility is paved, or is an impervious surface,² or a properly closed sanitary landfill facility², an existing 29 or proposed commercial, retail, industrial, municipal, professional, 30 recreational, transit, commuter, entertainment complex, multi-use, 31 32 or mixed-use parking lot with a capacity to park 350 or more vehicles where the area to be utilized for the facility is paved, or is 33 an impervious surface,]³⁴, on an area of historic fill,⁴ or ⁴on a⁴ a 34 properly closed sanitary landfill facility². Any solar electric power 35 generation facility, other than that of a net metering customer on the 36 customer's side of the meter, connected above 69 kilovolts ²[,]² 37 38 shall not be considered connected to the distribution system; 39 "Customer" means any person that is an end user and is 40 connected to any part of the transmission and distribution system 41 within an electric public utility's service territory or a gas public 42 utility's service territory within this State; 43 "Customer account service" means metering, billing, or such 44 other administrative activity associated with maintaining a customer

45 account;

"Delivery year" or "DY" means the 12-month period from June
 1st through May 31st, numbered according to the calendar year in
 which it ends;

"Demand side management" means the management of customer
demand for energy service through the implementation of costeffective energy efficiency technologies, including, but not limited
to, installed conservation, load management and energy efficiency
measures on and in the residential, commercial, industrial,
institutional and governmental premises and facilities in this State;

10 "Electric generation service" means the provision of retail 11 electric energy and capacity which is generated off-site from the 12 location at which the consumption of such electric energy and 13 capacity is metered for retail billing purposes, including agreements 14 and arrangements related thereto;

15 "Electric power generator" means an entity that proposes to construct, own, lease or operate, or currently owns, leases or 16 17 operates, an electric power production facility that will sell or does 18 sell at least 90 percent of its output, either directly or through a 19 marketer, to a customer or customers located at sites that are not on 20 or contiguous to the site on which the facility will be located or is 21 located. The designation of an entity as an electric power generator 22 for the purposes of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.) shall not, in 23 and of itself, affect the entity's status as an exempt wholesale 24 generator under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, 25 15 U.S.C. s.79 et seq., or its successor;

26 "Electric power supplier" means a person or entity that is duly licensed pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et 27 28 al.) to offer and to assume the contractual and legal responsibility to 29 provide electric generation service to retail customers, and includes 30 load serving entities, marketers and brokers that offer or provide 31 electric generation service to retail customers. The term excludes an 32 electric public utility that provides electric generation service only 33 as a basic generation service pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1999, c.23 34 (C.48:3-57);

35 "Electric public utility" means a public utility, as that term is
36 defined in R.S.48:2-13, that transmits and distributes electricity to
37 end users within this State;

38 "Electric related service" means a service that is directly related 39 to the consumption of electricity by an end user, including, but not 40 limited to, the installation of demand side management measures at 41 the end user's premises, the maintenance, repair or replacement of 42 appliances, lighting, motors or other energy-consuming devices at 43 the end user's premises, and the provision of energy consumption 44 measurement and billing services;

45 "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol or
46 process, attached to, or logically associated with, a contract or other

record, and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign
 the record;

"Eligible generator" means a developer of a base load or midmerit electric power generation facility including, but not limited to,
an on-site generation facility that qualifies as a capacity resource
under PJM criteria and that commences construction after the
effective date of P.L.2011, c.9 (C.48:3-98.2 et al.);

8 "Energy agent" means a person that is duly registered pursuant to 9 the provisions of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.), that arranges the 10 sale of retail electricity or electric related services or retail gas 11 supply or gas related services between government aggregators or 12 private aggregators and electric power suppliers or gas suppliers, 13 but does not take title to the electric or gas sold;

"Energy consumer" means a business or residential consumer of
electric generation service or gas supply service located within the
territorial jurisdiction of a government aggregator;

"Energy efficiency portfolio standard" means a requirement to
procure a specified amount of energy efficiency or demand side
management resources as a means of managing and reducing energy
usage and demand by customers;

"Energy year" or "EY" means the 12-month period from June 1st
through May 31st, numbered according to the calendar year in
which it ends;

<u>"Farmland" means land actively devoted to agricultural or</u>
<u>horticultural use that is valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the</u>
<u>"Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et</u>
<u>seq.);</u>

"Federal Energy Regulatory Commission" or "FERC" means the
federal agency established pursuant to 42 U.S.C. s.7171 et seq. to
regulate the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and
oil;

⁴"Final remediation document" shall have the same meaning as
 provided in section 3 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b);⁴

34 "Financing entity" means an electric public utility, a special 35 purpose entity, or any other assignee of bondable transition 36 property, which issues transition bonds. Except as specifically 37 provided in P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.), a financing entity 38 which is not itself an electric public utility shall not be subject to 39 the public utility requirements of Title 48 or any rules or regulations 40 adopted pursuant thereto;

"Gas public utility" means a public utility, as that term is defined
in R.S.48:2-13, that distributes gas to end users within this State;

"Gas related service" means a service that is directly related to
the consumption of gas by an end user, including, but not limited to,
the installation of demand side management measures at the end
user's premises, the maintenance, repair or replacement of
appliances or other energy-consuming devices at the end user's

premises, and the provision of energy consumption measurement
 and billing services;

3 "Gas supplier" means a person that is duly licensed pursuant to 4 the provisions of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.) to offer and 5 assume the contractual and legal obligation to provide gas supply 6 service to retail customers, and includes, but is not limited to, 7 marketers and brokers. A non-public utility affiliate of a public 8 utility holding company may be a gas supplier, but a gas public 9 utility or any subsidiary of a gas utility is not a gas supplier. In the 10 event that a gas public utility is not part of a holding company legal 11 structure, a related competitive business segment of that gas public 12 utility may be a gas supplier, provided that related competitive 13 business segment is structurally separated from the gas public 14 utility, and provided that the interactions between the gas public 15 utility and the related competitive business segment are subject to 16 the affiliate relations standards adopted by the board pursuant to 17 subsection k. of section 10 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-58);

"Gas supply service" means the provision to customers of the
retail commodity of gas, but does not include any regulated
distribution service;

21 "Government aggregator" means any government entity subject 22 to the requirements of the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, 23 c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.), the "Public School Contracts Law," 24 N.J.S.18A:18A-1 et seq., or the "County College Contracts Law," 25 P.L.1982, c.189 (C.18A:64A-25.1 et seq.), that enters into a written 26 contract with a licensed electric power supplier or a licensed gas 27 supplier for: (1) the provision of electric generation service, electric 28 related service, gas supply service, or gas related service for its own 29 use or the use of other government aggregators; or (2) if a 30 municipal or county government, the provision of electric 31 generation service or gas supply service on behalf of business or 32 residential customers within its territorial jurisdiction;

"Government energy aggregation program" means a program and
procedure pursuant to which a government aggregator enters into a
written contract for the provision of electric generation service or
gas supply service on behalf of business or residential customers
within its territorial jurisdiction;

38 "Governmental entity" means any federal, state, municipal, local
39 or other governmental department, commission, board, agency,
40 court, authority or instrumentality having competent jurisdiction;

"Greenhouse gas emissions portfolio standard" means a
requirement that addresses or limits the amount of carbon dioxide
emissions indirectly resulting from the use of electricity as applied
to any electric power suppliers and basic generation service
providers of electricity;

46 ⁴<u>"Historic fill" means generally large volumes of non-indigenous</u>
 47 material, no matter what date they were emplaced on the site, used

1 to raise the topographic elevation of a site, which were 2 contaminated prior to emplacement and are in no way connected 3 with the operations at the location of emplacement and which 4 include, but are not limited to, construction debris, dredge spoils, 5 incinerator residue, demolition debris, fly ash, and non-hazardous solid waste. "Historic fill" shall not include any material which is 6 7 substantially chromate chemical production waste or any other 8 chemical production waste or waste from processing of metal or 9 mineral ores, residues, slags, or tailings;⁴ 10 "Incremental auction" means an auction conducted by PJM, as 11 part of PJM's reliability pricing model, prior to the start of the 12 delivery year to secure electric capacity as necessary to satisfy the 13 capacity requirements for that delivery year, that is not otherwise 14 provided for in the base residual auction; 15 "Leakage" means an increase in greenhouse gas emissions 16 related to generation sources located outside of the State that are not 17 subject to a state, interstate or regional greenhouse gas emissions 18 cap or standard that applies to generation sources located within the 19 State; 20 "Locational deliverability area" or "LDA" means one or more of 21 the zones within the PJM region which are used to evaluate area 22 transmission constraints and reliability issues including electric 23 public utility company zones, sub-zones, and combinations of 24 zones; 25 "Long-term capacity agreement pilot program" or "LCAPP" 26 means a pilot program established by the board that includes 27 participation by eligible generators, to seek offers for financially-28 settled standard offer capacity agreements with eligible generators 29 pursuant to the provisions of P.L.2011, c.9 (C.48:3-98.2 et al.); 30 "Market transition charge" means a charge imposed pursuant to 31 section 13 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-61) by an electric public 32 utility, at a level determined by the board, on the electric public 33 utility customers for a limited duration transition period to recover 34 stranded costs created as a result of the introduction of electric 35 power supply competition pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1999, 36 c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.); 37 "Marketer" means a duly licensed electric power supplier that 38 takes title to electric energy and capacity, transmission and other 39 services from electric power generators and other wholesale 40 suppliers and then assumes the contractual and legal obligation to 41 provide electric generation service, and may include transmission 42 and other services, to an end-use retail customer or customers, or a 43 duly licensed gas supplier that takes title to gas and then assumes 44 the contractual and legal obligation to provide gas supply service to 45 an end-use customer or customers;

"Mid-merit electric power generation facility" means a 1 generation facility that operates at a capacity factor between 2 3 baseload generation facilities and peaker generation facilities; ²"Net metering aggregation" means a procedure for calculating 4 the combination of the annual energy usage for all ³[solar electric 5 power generating]³ facilities owned by a single customer where 6 7 such customer is a State entity, school district, county, county 8 agency, county authority, municipality, municipal agency, or 9 municipal authority, ³and which are served by a solar electric power generating facility³ as provided pursuant to paragraph (4) of 10 subsection e. of section 38 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-87)^{2 3};³ 11 "Net proceeds" means proceeds less transaction and other related 12 13 costs as determined by the board; 14 "Net revenues" means revenues less related expenses, including applicable taxes, as determined by the board; 15 "Offshore wind energy" means electric energy produced by a 16 17 qualified offshore wind project; 18 "Offshore wind renewable energy certificate" or "OREC" means 19 a certificate, issued by the board or its designee, representing the 20 environmental attributes of one megawatt hour of electric 21 generation from a qualified offshore wind project; 22 "Off-site end use thermal energy services customer" means an 23 end use customer that purchases thermal energy services from an 24 on-site generation facility, combined heat and power facility, or co-25 generation facility, and that is located on property that is separated 26 from the property on which the on-site generation facility, combined heat and power facility, or co-generation facility is 27 28 located by more than one easement, public thoroughfare, or 29 transportation or utility-owned right-of-way; 30 "On-site generation facility" means a generation facility, 31 including, but not limited to, a generation facility that produces 32 Class I or Class II renewable energy, and equipment and services 33 appurtenant to electric sales by such facility to the end use customer 34 located on the property or on property contiguous to the property on which the end user is located ²[for the specific purpose of 35 supplying generation to the end use customer's property. The total 36 output of the on-site generation facility shall be used to serve the 37 load of the on-site end use customer]² ¹[unless the customer is 38 eligible for and engaged in virtual net metering aggregation]¹. An 39 on-site generation facility shall not be considered a public utility. 40 41 The property of the end use customer and the property on which the 42 on-site generation facility is located shall be considered contiguous 43 if they are geographically located next to each other, but may be 44 otherwise separated by an easement, public thoroughfare, 45 transportation or utility-owned right-of-way, or if the end use 46 customer is purchasing thermal energy services produced by the onsite generation facility, for use for heating or cooling, or both, 47

regardless of whether the customer is located on property that is
 separated from the property on which the on-site generation facility
 is located by more than one easement, public thoroughfare, or
 transportation or utility-owned right-of-way;

5 "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,
6 association, trust, limited liability company, governmental entity or
7 other legal entity;

8 "PJM Interconnection, L.L.C." or "PJM" means the privately-9 held, limited liability corporation that is a FERC-approved Regional 10 Transmission Organization, or its successor, that manages the 11 regional, high-voltage electricity grid serving all or parts of 13 12 states including New Jersey and the District of Columbia, operates 13 the regional competitive wholesale electric market, manages the 14 regional transmission planning process, and establishes systems and 15 rules to ensure that the regional and in-State energy markets operate 16 fairly and efficiently;

⁴ "Preliminary assessment" shall have the same meaning as
 provided in section 3 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b);⁴

"Private aggregator" means a non-government aggregator that is a duly-organized business or non-profit organization authorized to do business in this State that enters into a contract with a duly licensed electric power supplier for the purchase of electric energy and capacity, or with a duly licensed gas supplier for the purchase of gas supply service, on behalf of multiple end-use customers by combining the loads of those customers;

26 "Properly closed sanitary landfill facility" means a sanitary 27 landfill facility, or a portion of a sanitary landfill facility, for which 28 performance is complete with respect to all activities associated 29 with the design, installation, purchase, or construction of all 30 measures, structures, or equipment required by the Department of 31 Environmental Protection, pursuant to law, in order to prevent, 32 minimize, or monitor pollution or health hazards resulting from a 33 sanitary landfill facility subsequent to the termination of operations 34 at any portion thereof, including, but not necessarily limited to, the 35 placement of earthen or vegetative cover, and the installation of 36 methane gas vents or monitors and leachate monitoring wells or 37 collection systems at the site of any sanitary landfill facility;

38 "Public utility holding company" means: (1) any company that, 39 directly or indirectly, owns, controls, or holds with power to vote, 40 ten percent or more of the outstanding voting securities of an 41 electric public utility or a gas public utility or of a company which 42 is a public utility holding company by virtue of this definition, 43 unless the Securities and Exchange Commission, or its successor, 44 by order declares such company not to be a public utility holding 45 company under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, 46 15 U.S.C. s.79 et seq., or its successor; or (2) any person that the 47 Securities and Exchange Commission, or its successor, determines,

after notice and opportunity for hearing, directly or indirectly, to 1 2 exercise, either alone or pursuant to an arrangement or 3 understanding with one or more other persons, such a controlling 4 influence over the management or policies of an electric public 5 utility or a gas public utility or public utility holding company as to 6 make it necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the 7 protection of investors or consumers that such person be subject to 8 the obligations, duties, and liabilities imposed in the Public Utility 9 Holding Company Act of 1935 or its successor;

10 "Qualified offshore wind project" means a wind turbine 11 electricity generation facility in the Atlantic Ocean and connected 12 to the electric transmission system in this State, and includes the 13 associated transmission-related interconnection facilities and 14 equipment, and approved by the board pursuant to section 3 of 15 P.L.2010, c.57 (C.48:3-87.1);

16 "Registration program" means an administrative process
 17 developed by the board pursuant to subsection u. of section 38 of
 ² [P.L.1999, c.12] P.L.1999, c.23² (C.48:3-87) that requires all
 19 owners of solar electric power generation facilities connected to the
 20 distribution system that intend to generate SRECs, to file with the
 21 board documents detailing the size, location, interconnection plan,
 22 land use, and other project information as required by the board;

"Regulatory asset" means an asset recorded on the books of an
electric public utility or gas public utility pursuant to the Statement
of Financial Accounting Standards, No. 71, entitled "Accounting for
the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation," or any successor
standard and as deemed recoverable by the board;

28 "Related competitive business segment of an electric public 29 utility or gas public utility" means any business venture of an 30 electric public utility or gas public utility including, but not limited 31 to, functionally separate business units, joint ventures, and 32 partnerships, that offers to provide or provides competitive services; 33 "Related competitive business segment of a public utility holding 34 company" means any business venture of a public utility holding 35 company, including, but not limited to, functionally separate 36 business units, joint ventures, and partnerships and subsidiaries, that 37 offers to provide or provides competitive services, but does not 38 include any related competitive business segments of an electric 39 public utility or gas public utility;

"Reliability pricing model" or "RPM" means PJM's capacitymarket model, and its successors, that secures capacity on behalf of
electric load serving entities to satisfy load obligations not satisfied
through the output of electric generation facilities owned by those
entities, or otherwise secured by those entities through bilateral
contracts;

46 "Renewable energy certificate" or "REC" means a certificate
47 representing the environmental benefits or attributes of one

megawatt-hour of generation from a generating facility that
 produces Class I or Class II renewable energy, but shall not include

3 a solar renewable energy certificate or an offshore wind renewable

4 energy certificate;

"Resource clearing price" or "RCP" means the clearing price
established for the applicable locational deliverability area by the
base residual auction or incremental auction, as determined by the
optimization algorithm for each auction, conducted by PJM as part
of PJM's reliability pricing model;

"Resource recovery facility" means a solid waste facility
constructed and operated for the incineration of solid waste for
energy production and the recovery of metals and other materials
for reuse, which the Department of Environmental Protection has
determined to be in compliance with current environmental
standards, including, but not limited to, all applicable requirements
of the federal "Clean Air Act" (42 U.S.C. s.7401 et seq.);

17 "Restructuring related costs" means reasonably incurred costs 18 directly related to the restructuring of the electric power industry, 19 including the closure, sale, functional separation and divestiture of 20 generation and other competitive utility assets by a public utility, or the provision of competitive services as such costs are determined 21 22 by the board, and which are not stranded costs as defined in 23 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.) but may include, but not be limited 24 to, investments in management information systems, and which 25 shall include expenses related to employees affected by 26 restructuring which result in efficiencies and which result in 27 benefits to ratepayers, such as training or retraining at the level 28 equivalent to one year's training at a vocational or technical school 29 or county community college, the provision of severance pay of two 30 weeks of base pay for each year of full-time employment, and a 31 maximum of 24 months' continued health care coverage. Except as 32 to expenses related to employees affected by restructuring, 33 "restructuring related costs" shall not include going forward costs;

"Retail choice" means the ability of retail customers to shop for
electric generation or gas supply service from electric power or gas
suppliers, or opt to receive basic generation service or basic gas
service, and the ability of an electric power or gas supplier to offer
electric generation service or gas supply service to retail customers,
consistent with the provisions of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.);

40 "Retail margin" means an amount, reflecting differences in 41 prices that electric power suppliers and electric public utilities may 42 charge in providing electric generation service and basic generation 43 service, respectively, to retail customers, excluding residential 44 customers, which the board may authorize to be charged to 45 categories of basic generation service customers of electric public 46 utilities in this State, other than residential customers, under the 47 board's continuing regulation of basic generation service pursuant to

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sections 3 and 9 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51 and 48:3-57), for the 1 2 purpose of promoting a competitive retail market for the supply of 3 electricity; 4 "Sanitary landfill facility" shall have the same meaning as provided in section 3 of P.L.1970, c.39 (C.13:1E-3); 5 6 "School district" means a local or regional school district 7 established pursuant to chapter 8 or chapter 13 of Title 18A of the 8 New Jersey Statutes, a county special services school district 9 established pursuant to article 8 of chapter 46 of Title 18A of the 10 New Jersey Statutes, a county vocational school district established 11 pursuant to article 3 of chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey 12 Statutes, and a district under full State intervention pursuant to 13 P.L.1987, c.399 (C.18A:7A-34 et al.); 14 "Shopping credit" means an amount deducted from the bill of an 15 electric public utility customer to reflect the fact that such customer 16 has switched to an electric power supplier and no longer takes basic 17 generation service from the electric public utility; 18 ⁴"Site investigation" shall have the same meaning as provided in section 3 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11b);⁴ 19 20 "Small scale hydropower facility" means a facility located within 21 this State that is connected to the distribution system, and that 22 meets the requirements of, and has been certified by, a nationally 23 recognized low-impact hydropower organization that has 24 established low-impact hydropower certification criteria applicable 25 to: (1) river flows; (2) water quality; (3) fish passage and 26 protection; (4) watershed protection; (5) threatened and endangered 27 species protection; (6) cultural resource protection; (7) recreation; 28 and (8) facilities recommended for removal; 29 "Social program" means a program implemented with board 30 approval to provide assistance to a group of disadvantaged 31 customers, to provide protection to consumers, or to accomplish a 32 particular societal goal, and includes, but is not limited to, the 33 winter moratorium program, utility practices concerning "bad debt" 34 customers, low income assistance, deferred payment plans, 35 weatherization programs, and late payment and deposit policies, but 36 does not include any demand side management program or any 37 environmental requirements or controls; 38 "Societal benefits charge" means a charge imposed by an electric 39 public utility, at a level determined by the board, pursuant to, and in 40 accordance with, section 12 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-60); "Solar alternative compliance payment" or "SACP" means a 41 42 payment of a certain dollar amount per megawatt hour (MWh) 43 which an electric power supplier or provider may submit to the 44 board in order to comply with the solar electric generation 45 requirements under section 38 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-87); 46 "Solar renewable energy certificate" or "SREC" means a 47 certificate issued by the board or its designee, representing one

megawatt hour (MWh) of solar energy that is generated by a facility 1 2 connected to the distribution system in this State and has value 3 based upon, and driven by, the energy market; "Standard offer capacity agreement" or "SOCA" means a 4 5 financially-settled transaction agreement, approved by board order, 6 that provides for eligible generators to receive payments from the 7 electric public utilities for a defined amount of electric capacity for 8 a term to be determined by the board but not to exceed 15 years, 9 and for such payments to be a fully non-bypassable charge, with 10 such an order, once issued, being irrevocable; 11 "Standard offer capacity price" or "SOCP" means the capacity 12 price that is fixed for the term of the SOCA and which is the price 13 to be received by eligible generators under a board-approved 14 SOCA; ² ³[["]<u>State entity</u>"] "<u>State entity</u>"³ <u>means a department, agency</u>, 15 or office of State government, a State university or college, or an 16 authority created by the State;² 17 18 "Stranded cost" means the amount by which the net cost of an 19 electric public utility's electric generating assets or electric power 20 purchase commitments, as determined by the board consistent with 21 the provisions of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.), exceeds the 22 market value of those assets or contractual commitments in a 23 competitive supply marketplace and the costs of buydowns or 24 buyouts of power purchase contracts; 25 "Stranded costs recovery order" means each order issued by the 26 board in accordance with subsection c. of section 13 of P.L.1999, 27 c.23 (C.48:3-61) which sets forth the amount of stranded costs, if 28 any, the board has determined an electric public utility is eligible to 29 recover and collect in accordance with the standards set forth in 30 section 13 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-61) and the recovery 31 mechanisms therefor; 32 "Thermal efficiency" means the useful electric energy output of a 33 facility, plus the useful thermal energy output of the facility, 34 expressed as a percentage of the total energy input to the facility; 35 "Transition bond charge" means a charge, expressed as an 36 amount per kilowatt hour, that is authorized by and imposed on 37 electric public utility ratepayers pursuant to a bondable stranded 38 costs rate order, as modified at any time pursuant to the provisions 39 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.); 40 "Transition bonds" means bonds, notes, certificates of 41 participation or beneficial interest or other evidences of indebtedness or ownership issued pursuant to an indenture, contract 42 43 or other agreement of an electric public utility or a financing entity, 44 the proceeds of which are used, directly or indirectly, to recover, 45 finance or refinance bondable stranded costs and which are, directly 46 or indirectly, secured by or payable from bondable transition 47 property. References in P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.) to

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principal, interest, and acquisition or redemption premium with 1 2 respect to transition bonds which are issued in the form of 3 certificates of participation or beneficial interest or other evidences 4 of ownership shall refer to the comparable payments on such 5 securities: 6 "Transition period" means the period from August 1, 1999 7 through July 31, 2003; 8 "Transmission and distribution system" means, with respect to an 9 electric public utility, any facility or equipment that is used for the 10 transmission, distribution or delivery of electricity to the customers 11 of the electric public utility including, but not limited to, the land, structures, meters, lines, switches and all other appurtenances 12 13 thereof and thereto, owned or controlled by the electric public 14 utility within this State; and 15 "Universal service" means any service approved by the board 16 with the purpose of assisting low-income residential customers in 17 obtaining or retaining electric generation or delivery service. 18 ²["Virtual net metering aggregation" means a procedure for 19 calculating the combination of the annual energy usage for all facilities owned or leased by a single customer and that customer is 20 21 a school district, county, county agency, county authority, 22 municipality, municipal agency, or municipal authority, as provided 23 pursuant to paragraph (4) of subsection e. of section 38 of P.L.1999, <u>c.23 (C.48:3-87).</u>]² 24 25 (cf: P.L.2011, c.9, s.2) 26 27 2. Section 38 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-87) is amended to read 28 as follows: 29 38. a. The board shall require an electric power supplier or 30 basic generation service provider to disclose on a customer's bill or 31 on customer contracts or marketing materials, a uniform, common 32 set of information about the environmental characteristics of the 33 energy purchased by the customer, including, but not limited to: 34 (1) Its fuel mix, including categories for oil, gas, nuclear, coal, 35 solar, hydroelectric, wind and biomass, or a regional average 36 determined by the board; 37 (2) Its emissions, in pounds per megawatt hour, of sulfur 38 dioxide, carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, and any other pollutant that the board may determine to pose an environmental or health 39 40 hazard, or an emissions default to be determined by the board; and 41 (3) Any discrete emission reduction retired pursuant to rules and 42 regulations adopted pursuant to P.L.1995, c.188. b. Notwithstanding any provisions of the "Administrative 43 44 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to the 45 contrary, the board shall initiate a proceeding and shall adopt, in 46 consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, after 47 notice and opportunity for public comment and public hearing,

interim standards to implement this disclosure requirement,
 including, but not limited to:

3 (1) A methodology for disclosure of emissions based on output
4 pounds per megawatt hour;

5 (2) Benchmarks for all suppliers and basic generation service 6 providers to use in disclosing emissions that will enable consumers 7 to perform a meaningful comparison with a supplier's or basic 8 generation service provider's emission levels; and

9 (3) A uniform emissions disclosure format that is graphic in 10 nature and easily understandable by consumers. The board shall 11 periodically review the disclosure requirements to determine if 12 revisions to the environmental disclosure system as implemented 13 are necessary.

14 Such standards shall be effective as regulations immediately 15 upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law and shall be 16 effective for a period not to exceed 18 months, and may, thereafter, 17 be amended, adopted or readopted by the board in accordance with 18 the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act."

c. (1) The board may adopt, in consultation with the Department
of Environmental Protection, after notice and opportunity for public
comment, an emissions portfolio standard applicable to all electric
power suppliers and basic generation service providers, upon a
finding that:

(a) The standard is necessary as part of a plan to enable the
State to meet federal Clean Air Act or State ambient air quality
standards; and

(b) Actions at the regional or federal level cannot reasonably beexpected to achieve the compliance with the federal standards.

29 (2) By July 1, 2009, the board shall adopt, pursuant to the 30 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et 31 seq.), a greenhouse gas emissions portfolio standard to mitigate 32 leakage or another regulatory mechanism to mitigate leakage 33 applicable to all electric power suppliers and basic generation 34 service providers that provide electricity to customers within the 35 State. The greenhouse gas emissions portfolio standard or any other 36 regulatory mechanism to mitigate leakage shall:

37 (a) Allow a transition period, either before or after the effective 38 date of the regulation to mitigate leakage, for a basic generation 39 service provider or electric power supplier to either meet the 40 emissions portfolio standard or other regulatory mechanism to 41 mitigate leakage, or to transfer any customer to a basic generation 42 service provider or electric power supplier that meets the emissions 43 portfolio standard or other regulatory mechanism to mitigate 44 leakage. If the transition period allowed pursuant to this 45 subparagraph occurs after the implementation of an emissions 46 portfolio standard or other regulatory mechanism to mitigate

leakage, the transition period shall be no longer than three years;
 and

3 (b) Exempt the provision of basic generation service pursuant to 4 a basic generation service purchase and sale agreement effective 5 prior to the date of the regulation.

Unless the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee 6 7 determines that a greenhouse gas emissions portfolio standard 8 would unconstitutionally burden interstate commerce or would be 9 preempted by federal law, the adoption by the board of an electric 10 energy efficiency portfolio standard pursuant to subsection g. of this 11 section, a gas energy efficiency portfolio standard pursuant to 12 subsection h. of this section, or any other enhanced energy 13 efficiency policies to mitigate leakage shall not be considered 14 sufficient to fulfill the requirement of this subsection for the 15 adoption of a greenhouse gas emissions portfolio standard or any 16 other regulatory mechanism to mitigate leakage.

d. Notwithstanding any provisions of the "Administrative
Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to the
contrary, the board shall initiate a proceeding and shall adopt, after
notice, provision of the opportunity for comment, and public
hearing, renewable energy portfolio standards that shall require:

(1) that two and one-half percent of the kilowatt hours sold in
this State by each electric power supplier and each basic generation
service provider be from Class I or Class II renewable energy
sources;

26 (2) beginning on January 1, 2001, that one-half of one percent 27 of the kilowatt hours sold in this State by each electric power supplier and each basic generation service provider be from Class I 28 29 renewable energy sources. The board shall increase the required 30 percentage for Class I renewable energy sources so that by January 31 1, 2006, one percent of the kilowatt hours sold in this State by each 32 electric power supplier and each basic generation service provider 33 shall be from Class I renewable energy sources and shall 34 additionally increase the required percentage for Class I renewable 35 energy sources by one-half of one percent each year until January 1, 36 2012, when four percent of the kilowatt hours sold in this State by 37 each electric power supplier and each basic generation service 38 provider shall be from Class I renewable energy sources.

An electric power supplier or basic generation service provider
may satisfy the requirements of this subsection by participating in a
renewable energy trading program approved by the board in
consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection;

(3) that the board establish a multi-year schedule, applicable to
each electric power supplier or basic generation service provider in
this State, beginning with the one-year period commencing on June
1, 2010, and continuing for each subsequent one-year period up to
and including, the one-year period commencing on [June 1, 2025]

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1 June 1, 2028, that requires [suppliers or providers to purchase at 2 least] the following number or percentage, as the case may be, of 3 kilowatt-hours sold in this State by each electric power supplier and 4 each basic generation service provider to be from solar electric 5 power generators <u>connected to the distribution system</u> in this State: 6 EY 2011 306 Gigawatthours (Gwhrs) 7 EY 2012 442 Gwhrs ²[596 Gwhrs] ³[0.752%²] <u>596 Gwhrs</u>³ 8 EY 2013 [772 Gwhrs] ²[2.184%] 2.050%² 9 EY 2014 [965 Gwhrs] ²[2.543%] 2.450%² EY 2015 10 [1,150 Gwhrs] ²[2.549%] 2.750%² 11 EY 2016 [1,357 Gwhrs] ²[<u>2.788%</u>] <u>3.000%</u>² 12 EY 2017 [1,591 Gwhrs] ²[3.023%] 3.200%² 13 EY 2018 [1,858 Gwhrs] ²[3.255%] 3.290%² 14 EY 2019 [2,164 Gwhrs] ²[<u>3.486%</u>] <u>3.380%</u>² 15 EY 2020 [2,518 Gwhrs] ²[<u>3.722%</u>] <u>3.470%</u>² 16 EY 2021 [2,928 Gwhrs] ²[<u>3.865%</u>] <u>3.560%</u>² 17 EY 2022 [3,433 Gwhrs] ²[<u>4.002%</u>] <u>3.650%</u>² 18 EY 2023 [3,989 Gwhrs] ²[<u>4.078%</u>] <u>3.740 %</u>² 19 EY 2024 [4,610 Gwhrs] ²[4.147%] 3.830 %² 20 EY 2025 [5,316 Gwhrs]²[4.180%] 3.920%² EY 2026 21 ²[4.204%] 4.010%² EY 2027 22 EY 2028 ²[4.227%] 4.100%², and for every energy year thereafter, 23 24 at least $[5,316 \text{ Gwhrs}]^{2}$ [4.227%] $4.100\%^{2}$ per energy year to reflect an increasing number of kilowatt-hours to be purchased by 25 26 suppliers or providers from solar electric power generators 27 connected to the distribution system in this State, and to establish a 28 framework within which, of the electricity that the generators sell in 29 this State, suppliers and providers shall [purchase] each obtain at least [2,518 Gwhrs] ²[3.722%] 3.470%² in the energy year 2021 30 and $[5,316 \text{ Gwhrs}]^{2}[4.227\%] 4.100\%^{2}$ in the energy year [2026]31 32 2028 from solar electric power generators connected to the 33 distribution system in this State, provided, however, that 34 the number of solar kilowatt-hours required to be purchased by 35 each supplier or provider, when expressed as a percentage of the 36 total number of solar kilowatt-hours purchased in this State, shall be 37 equivalent to each supplier's or provider's proportionate share of the 38 total number of kilowatt-hours sold in this State by all suppliers and 39 providers.]: 40 (a) The board shall determine an appropriate period of no less 41 than 120 days following the end of an energy year prior to which a 42 provider or supplier must demonstrate compliance for that energy 43 year with the annual renewable portfolio standard; 44 (b) No more than 24 months following the date of enactment of 45 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),

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1 the board shall complete a proceeding to investigate approaches to 2 mitigate solar development volatility and prepare and submit, 3 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a report to 4 the Legislature, detailing its findings and recommendations. As 5 part of the proceeding, the board shall evaluate other techniques 6 used nationally and internationally; 7 (c) The solar renewable portfolio standards requirements in this 8 paragraph shall exempt those existing supply contracts which are effective prior to the date of enactment of P.L., c. (C.) 9 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) from any increase 10 beyond the number of SRECs ³[that exceeds the number]³ 11 mandated by the solar renewable portfolio standards requirements 12 13 that were in effect on the date that the providers executed their 14 existing supply contracts. This limited exemption for providers' existing supply contracts shall not be construed to lower the 15 Statewide solar sourcing requirements set forth in this paragraph. 16 <u>Such incremental</u> ³ [new] ³ requirements ³ that would have otherwise 17 been imposed on exempt providers³ shall be distributed over the 18 ³[electric power suppliers and]³ providers not subject to the 19 existing supply contract exemption until such time as existing 20 supply contracts expire and all ³[suppliers] providers³ are subject 21 to the new requirement in a manner that is competitively neutral 22 among all providers and suppliers³[, such that non-exempt 23 providers are assigned the requirements that would have otherwise 24 ³The board shall been assigned to the exempt providers]³. 25 implement the provisions of this subsection in a manner so as to 26 27 prevent any subsidies between suppliers and providers and to 28 promote competition in the electricity supply industry.³ ²[The solar renewable portfolio standards requirements in 29 30 paragraph (3) of this subsection shall automatically increase by 20% 31 for the remainder of the schedule in the event that the following two 32 conditions are met: (a) the number of SRECs generated meets or 33 exceeds the requirement for three consecutive reporting years, 34 starting with energy year 2013; and (b) the average SREC price for 35 all SRECs purchased by entities with renewable energy portfolio 36 standards obligations has decreased in the same three consecutive

37 reporting years; and

38 The board shall exempt providers' existing supply contracts that 39 are: (a) effective prior to the date of P.L.2009, c.289; or (b) 40 effective prior to any future increase in the solar renewable 41 portfolio standard beyond the multi-year schedule established in 42 paragraph (3) of this subsection. This exemption shall apply to the 43 number of SRECs that exceeds the number mandated by the solar 44 renewable portfolio standards requirements that were in effect on 45 the date that the providers executed their existing supply contracts. 46 This limited exemption for providers' existing supply contracts shall 47 not be construed to lower the Statewide solar purchase requirements

set forth in paragraph (3) of this subsection. Such incremental new 1 2 requirements shall be distributed over the electric power suppliers 3 and providers not subject to the existing supply contract exemption 4 until such time as existing supply contracts expire and all suppliers 5 are subject to the new requirement.] 6 ³[(d) The solar renewable portfolio standards requirements in 7 this paragraph shall automatically increase by 20% for the 8 remainder of the schedule in the event that the following two 9 conditions are met: (i) the number of SRECs generated meets or 10 exceeds the requirement for three consecutive reporting years, starting with energy year 2014; and (ii) the average current market 11 12 SREC price for SRECs purchased by entities with renewable energy 13 portfolio standards obligations in each of the same three 14 consecutive reporting years is less than the average current market 15 SREC price in the year prior to the three consecutive reporting 16 years; and 17 (e) The board shall exempt providers' supply contracts that are 18 effective prior to the date of any such increase. This exemption shall apply to the number of SRECs that exceeds the number 19 20 mandated by the solar renewable portfolio standards requirements 21 that were in effect on the date that the suppliers or providers 22 executed their existing supply contracts. This limited exemption for 23 providers' existing supply contracts shall not be construed to lower 24 the Statewide solar purchase requirements set forth in this

25 paragraph. Such incremental new requirements shall be distributed 26 over the electric power suppliers and providers not subject to the 27 existing supply contract exemption until such time as existing 28 supply contracts expire and all suppliers are subject to the new 29 requirement in a manner that is competitively neutral among all 30 suppliers and providers, such that non-exempt providers are 31 assigned the requirements that would have otherwise been assigned to the exempt providers.²]³ 32

An electric power supplier or basic generation service provider may satisfy the requirements of this subsection by participating in a renewable energy trading program approved by the board in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, or compliance with the requirements of this subsection may be demonstrated to the board by suppliers or providers through the purchase of SRECs.

The renewable energy portfolio standards adopted by the board pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall be effective as regulations immediately upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law and shall be effective for a period not to exceed have not be a month, and may, thereafter, be amended, adopted or readopted by the board in accordance with the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act."

1 The renewable energy portfolio standards adopted by the board 2 pursuant to this paragraph [(3) of this subsection] shall be effective 3 as regulations immediately upon filing with the Office of 4 Administrative Law and shall be effective for a period not to exceed 5 30 months after such filing, and shall, thereafter, be amended, 6 adopted or readopted by the board in accordance with the 7 "Administrative Procedure Act"; and

8 (4) within 180 days after the date of enactment of P.L.2010, 9 c.57 (C.48:3-87.1 et al.), that the board establish an offshore wind 10 renewable energy certificate program to require that a percentage of 11 the kilowatt hours sold in this State by each electric power supplier 12 and each basic generation service provider be from offshore wind 13 energy in order to support at least 1,100 megawatts of generation 14 from qualified offshore wind projects.

15 The percentage established by the board pursuant to this 16 paragraph shall serve as an offset to the renewable energy portfolio 17 standard established pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this 18 subsection and shall reduce the corresponding Class I renewable 19 energy requirement.

20 The percentage established by the board pursuant to this 21 paragraph shall reflect the projected OREC production of each 22 qualified offshore wind project, approved by the board pursuant to 23 section 3 of P.L.2010, c.57 (C.48:3-87.1), for twenty years from the 24 commercial operation start date of the qualified offshore wind 25 project which production projection and OREC purchase 26 requirement, once approved by the board, shall not be subject to 27 reduction.

28 An electric power supplier or basic generation service provider 29 shall comply with the OREC program established pursuant to this 30 paragraph through the purchase of offshore wind renewable energy 31 certificates at a price and for the time period required by the board. 32 In the event there are insufficient offshore wind renewable energy 33 certificates available, the electric power supplier or basic generation 34 service provider shall pay an offshore wind alternative compliance 35 payment established by the board. Any offshore wind alternative 36 compliance payments collected shall be refunded directly to the 37 ratepayers by the electric public utilities.

38 The rules established by the board pursuant to this paragraph 39 shall be effective as regulations immediately upon filing with the 40 Office of Administrative Law and shall be effective for a period not 41 to exceed 18 months, and may, thereafter, be amended, adopted or 42 readopted by the board in accordance with the provisions of the 43 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et 44 seq.).

45 e. Notwithstanding any provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to the 46 47 contrary, the board shall initiate a proceeding and shall adopt, after notice, provision of the opportunity for comment, and public
 hearing:

3 (1) net metering standards for electric power suppliers and basic 4 generation service providers. The standards shall require electric 5 power suppliers and basic generation service providers to offer net 6 metering at non-discriminatory rates to industrial, large 7 commercial, residential and small commercial customers, as those 8 customers are classified or defined by the board, that generate 9 electricity, on the customer's side of the meter, using a Class I 10 renewable energy source, for the net amount of electricity supplied 11 by the electric power supplier or basic generation service provider 12 over an annualized period. Systems of any sized capacity, as measured in watts, are eligible for net metering. If the amount of 13 electricity generated by the customer-generator, plus any kilowatt 14 15 hour credits held over from the previous billing periods, exceeds the 16 electricity supplied by the electric power supplier or basic 17 generation service provider, then the electric power supplier or 18 basic generation service provider, as the case may be, shall credit 19 the customer-generator for the excess kilowatt hours until the end of 20 the annualized period at which point the customer-generator will be 21 compensated for any remaining credits or, if the customer-generator 22 chooses, credit the customer-generator on a real-time basis, at the 23 electric power supplier's or basic generation service provider's 24 avoided cost of wholesale power or the PJM electric power pool's 25 real-time locational marginal pricing rate, adjusted for losses, for 26 the respective zone in the PJM electric power pool. Alternatively, 27 the customer-generator may execute a bilateral agreement with an 28 electric power supplier or basic generation service provider for the 29 sale and purchase of the customer-generator's excess generation. 30 The customer-generator may be credited on a real-time basis, so 31 long as the customer-generator follows applicable rules prescribed 32 by the PJM electric power pool for its capacity requirements for the 33 net amount of electricity supplied by the electric power supplier or 34 basic generation service provider. The board may authorize an 35 electric power supplier or basic generation service provider to cease 36 offering net metering whenever the total rated generating capacity 37 owned and operated by net metering customer-generators Statewide 38 equals 2.5 percent of the State's peak electricity demand;

39 (2) safety and power quality interconnection standards for Class
40 I renewable energy source systems used by a customer-generator
41 that shall be eligible for net metering.

Such standards or rules shall take into consideration the goals of the New Jersey Energy Master Plan, applicable industry standards, and the standards of other states and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. The board shall allow electric public utilities to recover the costs of any new net meters, upgraded net meters, system reinforcements or upgrades, and interconnection costs

through either their regulated rates or from the net metering
 customer-generator; [and]

3 (3) credit or other incentive rules for generators using Class I
4 renewable energy generation systems that connect to New Jersey's
5 electric public utilities' distribution system but who do not net meter
6 ³[and:]; and³

(4) ²[virtual]² net metering aggregation standards to require 7 electric public utilities to provide ²[virtual]² net metering 8 9 aggregation to single electric public utility customers that operate a solar electric power generation² [facility] system installed at one of 10 the customer's facilities² ³ or on property owned by the customer³, 11 provided that any such customer is a ³State entity,³ school district, 12 county, county agency, county authority, municipality, municipal 13 14 agency, or municipal authority. The standards shall provide that, in order to qualify for ²[virtual]² net metering aggregation, the 15 customer must operate a solar electric power generation² [facility 16 that is directly connected to the electric grid, system using a net 17 metering billing account, which system is located on property 18 owned by the customer, provided that $\frac{3}{3}$ (a) the property is not land 19 20 that has been actively devoted to agricultural or horticultural use and that is valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the "Farmland 21 22 Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.) at 23 any time within the 10 year period prior to the effective date of 24 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), 25 ³provided, however, that the municipal planning board of a 26 municipality in which a solar electric power generation system is located may waive the requirement of this subparagraph (a), 3 (b) the 27 system² is not an on-site generation facility, ²[that] (c)² all of the 28 facilities of the single customer combined for the purpose of 29 ²[virtual]² net metering aggregation are facilities owned or 30 operated by the single customer ²[,] and² are located within its 31 territorial jurisdiction ¹[and,]¹²except that all of the facilities of a 32 State entity engaged in net metering aggregation shall be located 33 within five miles of one another, and (d) all of those facilities² are 34 within the service territory of a single electric public utility ²[,]² 35 ¹and are all served by ²the same² basic generation service 36 ²<u>provider</u>² or by the same electric power supplier¹. The standards 37 shall provide that in order to qualify for ²[virtual]² net metering 38 aggregation, the customer's solar electric power generation 39 ²[facility] system² shall be sized so that its annual generation does 40 not exceed the combined ²metered² annual energy usage of the 41 42 qualified customer facilities, and the qualified customer facilities shall all be in the same customer ³rate³ class under the applicable 43 electric public utility ¹[transmission and distribution]¹ tariff. ²For 44 the customer's facility ³ or property³ on which the solar electric 45

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generation system is installed, the electricity generated from the 1 customer's solar electric generation system shall be accounted for 2 3 pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection to 4 provide that the electricity generated in excess of the electricity 5 supplied by the electric power supplier or the basic generation 6 service provider, as the case may be, for the customer's facility on 7 which the solar electric generation system is installed, over the annualized period, is credited ³ [to] at ³ the electric power supplier's 8 or the basic generation service provider's avoided cost of wholesale 9 10 power or the PJM electric power pool real-time locational marginal pricing rate.² All electricity used by ¹[a customer engaged in 11 12 virtual net metering aggregation shall be delivered] the customer's qualified facilities, with the exception of the ²[solar electric power 13 generation]² facility ³or property³ ²on which the solar electric 14 power generation system is installed², shall be billed at the full 15 retail rate¹ pursuant to the electric public utility ³[transmission and 16 distribution]³ [tariffs] tariff¹ applicable to the customer class of 17 the customer using the electricity. ²[1[A] The electric public 18 utility shall provide the¹ customer ¹ [that is a school district, county, 19 20 county agency, county authority, municipality, municipal agency, or 21 municipal authority, may purchase such electricity through virtual 22 net metering aggregation to meet its electricity requirements] an 23 annual payment for the difference between the total energy 24 generated by the customer's solar electric power generation facility 25 and the energy used by the customer's qualified facilities consistent with the standards established in paragraph (1) of this subsection¹] 26 A customer may contract with a third party to operate a solar 27 28 electric power generation system, for the purpose of net metering 29 aggregation. Any contractual relationship entered into for operation 30 of a solar electric power generation system related to net metering 31 aggregation shall include contractual protections that provide for 32 adequate performance and provision for construction and operation 33 for the term of the contract, including any appropriate bonding or escrow requirements². Any incremental cost to an electric public 34 utility for ²[virtual]² net metering aggregation shall be fully and 35 timely recovered in a manner to be determined by the board. ¹The 36 board shall adopt ²[virtual]² net metering aggregation standards 37 within 270 days after the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) 38 (pending before the Legislature as this bill). ²[Should the board 39 fail to adopt such standards, electric public utilities shall provide for 40 41 virtual net metering aggregation consistent with the provisions of 42 this paragraph.¹]² 43 Such rules shall require the board or its designee to issue a credit 44 or other incentive to those generators that do not use a net meter but

or other incentive to those generators that do not use a net meter but
otherwise generate electricity derived from a Class I renewable
energy source and to issue an enhanced credit or other incentive,

including, but not limited to, a solar renewable energy credit, to
 those generators that generate electricity derived from solar
 technologies.

Such standards or rules shall be effective as regulations
immediately upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law and
shall be effective for a period not to exceed 18 months, and may,
thereafter, be amended, adopted or readopted by the board in
accordance with the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure
Act."

10 f. The board may assess, by written order and after notice and 11 opportunity for comment, a separate fee to cover the cost of 12 implementing and overseeing an emission disclosure system or 13 emission portfolio standard, which fee shall be assessed based on an 14 electric power supplier's or basic generation service provider's share 15 of the retail electricity supply market. The board shall not impose a 16 fee for the cost of implementing and overseeing a greenhouse gas 17 emissions portfolio standard adopted pursuant to paragraph (2) of 18 subsection c. of this section, the electric energy efficiency portfolio 19 standard adopted pursuant to subsection g. of this section, or the gas 20 energy efficiency portfolio standard adopted pursuant to subsection 21 h. of this section.

22 g. The board may adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative 23 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), an electric 24 energy efficiency portfolio standard that may require each electric 25 public utility to implement energy efficiency measures that reduce 26 electricity usage in the State by 2020 to a level that is 20 percent 27 below the usage projected by the board in the absence of such a 28 standard. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an 29 electric public utility from meeting the requirements of this section 30 by contracting with another entity for the performance of the 31 requirements.

32 The board may adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative h. 33 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), a gas energy 34 efficiency portfolio standard that may require each gas public utility 35 to implement energy efficiency measures that reduce natural gas 36 usage for heating in the State by 2020 to a level that is 20 percent 37 below the usage projected by the board in the absence of such a 38 standard. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a gas 39 public utility from meeting the requirements of this section by 40 contracting with another entity for the performance of the 41 requirements.

i. After the board establishes a schedule of solar kilowatt-hour
sale or purchase requirements pursuant to paragraph (3) of
subsection d. of this section, the board may initiate subsequent
proceedings and adopt, after appropriate notice and opportunity for
public comment and public hearing, increased minimum solar
kilowatt-hour sale or purchase requirements, provided that the

board shall not reduce previously established minimum solar
 kilowatt-hour sale or purchase requirements, or otherwise impose
 constraints that reduce the requirements by any means.

4 The board shall determine an appropriate level of solar j. 5 alternative compliance payment, and **[**establish a 15-year solar 6 alternative compliance payment schedule, that permits **]** permit each 7 supplier or provider to submit an SACP to comply with the solar 8 electric generation requirements of paragraph (3) of subsection d. of 9 this section. The value of the SACP for each Energy Year, for 10 Energy Years 2014 through 2028 per megawatt hour from solar 11 electric generation required pursuant to this section, shall be:

- 12 <u>EY 2014</u> ²[\$325] \$339²
- 13
 EY 2015
 2[\$317] \$331²

 14
 EY 2016
 2[\$309] \$323²

 15
 EY 2017
 2[\$301] \$315²
- 16 <u>EY 2018</u> ${}^{2}[\$294] \308^{2}
- 17 <u>EY 2019</u> ²[\$286] \$300²
- 18 <u>EY 2020</u> ${}^{2}[\underline{\$279}] \underline{\$293}^{2}$
- 19 <u>EY 2021</u> ${}^{2}[\underline{\$272}] \underline{\$286}^{2}$
- 20 <u>EY 2022</u> ² [\$265] $$279^{2}$
- 21 <u>EY 2023</u> ${}^{2}[\underline{\$259}] \underline{\$272}^{2}$
- 22 <u>EY 2024</u> ${}^{2}[\underline{\$252}] \underline{\$266}^{2}$
- 23 <u>EY 2025</u> ² [\$246] $$260^{2}$
- 24 <u>EY 2026</u> ²[\$240] \$253²
- 25 <u>EY 2027</u> ²[\$234] <u>\$250</u>²
- 26 <u>EY 2028</u> ²[<u>\$228</u>] <u>\$239</u>² ³.³

27 The board may initiate subsequent proceedings and adopt, after 28 appropriate notice and opportunity for public comment and public 29 hearing, an increase in solar alternative compliance payments, 30 provided that the board shall not reduce previously established 31 levels of solar alternative compliance payments, nor shall the board 32 provide relief from the obligation of payment of the SACP by the 33 electric power suppliers or basic generation service providers in any 34 form. Any SACP payments collected shall be refunded directly to 35 the ratepayers by the electric public utilities.

36 The board may allow electric public utilities to offer longk. 37 term contracts through a competitive process, direct electric public 38 utility investment and other means of financing, including but not 39 limited to loans, for the purchase of SRECs and the resale of SRECs 40 to suppliers or providers or others, provided that after such 41 contracts have been approved by the board, the board's approvals 42 shall not be modified by subsequent board orders. ²If the board allows the offering of contracts pursuant to this subsection, the 43 board ³[shall] may³ establish a process, after hearing, and 44 45 opportunity for public comment, to provide that a designated 46 segment of the contracts approved pursuant to this subsection shall

be contracts involving solar electric power generation facility 1 2 projects with a capacity of up to 250 kilowatts.² 3 The board shall implement its responsibilities under the 1. 4 provisions of this section in such a manner as to: 5 (1) place greater reliance on competitive markets, with the 6 explicit goal of encouraging and ensuring the emergence of new 7 entrants that can foster innovations and price competition; 8 (2) maintain adequate regulatory authority over non-competitive 9 public utility services; 10 (3) consider alternative forms of regulation in order to address 11 changes in the technology and structure of electric public utilities; 12 (4) promote energy efficiency and Class I renewable energy market development, taking into consideration environmental 13 14 benefits and market barriers; 15 (5) make energy services more affordable for low and moderate 16 income customers; 17 (6) attempt to transform the renewable energy market into one 18 that can move forward without subsidies from the State or public 19 utilities; (7) achieve the goals put forth under the renewable energy 20 21 portfolio standards; 22 (8) promote the lowest cost to ratepayers; and 23 (9) allow all market segments to participate. 24 m. The board shall ensure the availability of financial incentives 25 under its jurisdiction, including, but not limited to, long-term 26 contracts, loans, SRECs, or other financial support, to ensure 27 market diversity, competition, and appropriate coverage across all 28 ratepayer segments, including, but not limited to, residential, 29 commercial, industrial, non-profit, farms, schools, and public entity 30 customers. 31 n. For projects which are owned, or directly invested in, by a 32 public utility pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-33 98.1), the board shall determine the number of SRECs with which 34 such projects shall be credited; and in determining such number the 35 board shall ensure that the market for SRECs does not detrimentally 36 affect the development of non-utility solar projects and shall 37 consider how its determination may impact the ratepayers. 38 o. The board, in consultation with the Department of 39 Environmental Protection, electric public utilities, the Division of 40 Rate Counsel in, but not of, the Department of the Treasury, affected members of the solar energy industry, and relevant 41 42 stakeholders, shall periodically consider increasing the renewable 43 energy portfolio standards beyond the minimum amounts set forth 44 in subsection d. of this section, taking into account the cost impacts 45 and public benefits of such increases including, but not limited to: 46 (1) reductions in air pollution, water pollution, land disturbance, 47 and greenhouse gas emissions;

(2) reductions in peak demand for electricity and natural gas,
 and the overall impact on the costs to customers of electricity and
 natural gas;

4 (3) increases in renewable energy development, manufacturing,5 investment, and job creation opportunities in this State; and

6 (4) reductions in State and national dependence on the use of7 fossil fuels.

p. Class I RECs <u>and ORECS</u> shall be eligible for use in
renewable energy portfolio standards compliance in the energy year
in which they are generated, and for the following two energy years.
SRECs [and ORECs] shall be eligible for use in renewable energy
portfolio standards compliance in the energy year in which they are
generated, and for the following [two] four energy years.

14 q. (1) During the energy years of 2014, 2015, and 2016, a solar 15 electric power generation facility project that is not: (a) net metered; (b) an on-site generation facility; (c) qualified for 16 17 ²[virtual]² net metering aggregation; ²[or]² ³or³ (d) certified as being located on a brownfield ⁴, on an area of historic fill⁴ or ⁴on 18 a⁴ a properly closed sanitary landfill facility, as provided pursuant 19 to subsection t. of this section ${}^{3}[2 \text{ or } (e) \text{ certified as being located on}]$ 20 an existing or proposed commercial, retail, industrial, municipal, 21 22 professional, recreational, transit, commuter, entertainment 23 complex, multi-use, or mixed-use parking lot with a capacity to 24 park 350 or more vehicles where the area to be utilized for the facility is paved, or is an impervious surface pursuant to subsection 25 <u>x. of this section²]³ may file an application with the board for</u> 26 27 approval of a designation pursuant to this subsection that the 28 facility is connected to the distribution system. An application filed 29 pursuant to this subsection shall include a notice escrow of \$40,000 30 per megawatt of the proposed capacity of the facility. The board 31 shall approve the designation if: the facility has filed a notice in 32 writing with the board applying for designation pursuant to this 33 subsection, together with the notice escrow; and the capacity of the 34 facility, when added to the capacity of other facilities that have 35 been previously approved for designation prior to the facility's 36 filing under this subsection, does not exceed 80 megawatts in the 37 aggregate for each year. The capacity of any one solar electric 38 power supply project approved pursuant to this subsection shall not 39 exceed 10 megawatts. No more than 90 days after its receipt of a 40 completed application for designation pursuant to this subsection, 41 the board shall approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove the 42 application. The notice escrow shall be reimbursed to the facility in full upon ³either rejection by the board or ³ the facility entering 43 commercial operation, or shall be forfeited to the State if the facility 44 is designated pursuant to this subsection ³[.]³ but does not enter 45 46 commercial operation pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection.

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1 (2) If the proposed solar electric power generation facility does 2 not commence commercial operations within two years following 3 the date of the designation by the board pursuant to this subsection, 4 the designation of the facility shall be deemed to be null and void, 5 and the facility shall not be considered connected to the distribution 6 system thereafter. r. (1) For ²all proposed solar electric power generation facility 7 projects except for those² solar electric power generation facility 8 projects ²[proposed in addition to those]² approved pursuant to 9 subsection q. of this section⁴,⁴ and for all projects proposed in each 10 energy year following energy year 2016, a proposed solar electric 11 power generation facility that is neither net metered nor an on-site 12 generation facility, may be considered "connected to the 13 14 distribution system" only upon designation as such by the board, 15 after notice to the public and opportunity for public comment or hearing. A proposed solar power electric generation facility 16 17 seeking board designation as "connected to the distribution system" 18 shall submit an application to the board that includes for the 19 proposed facility: the nameplate capacity; the estimated energy and 20 number of SRECs to be produced and sold per year; the estimated 21 annual rate impact on ratepayers; the estimated capacity of the 22 generator as defined by PJM for sale in the PJM capacity market; 23 the point of interconnection; the total project acreage and location; 24 the current land use designation of the property; the type of solar 25 technology to be used; and such other information as the board shall 26 require. 27 (2) The board shall approve the designation of the proposed 28 solar power electric generation facility as "connected to the 29 distribution system" if the board determines that: 30 (a) the SRECs forecasted to be produced by the facility do not 31 have a detrimental impact on the SREC market or on the 32 appropriate development of solar power in the State; (b) the approval of the designation of the proposed facility 33 34 would not significantly impact the preservation of open space in 35 this State; 36 (c) the impact of the designation on electric rates and economic 37 development is beneficial; and (d) there will be no ³[impact] impingement³ on the ability of an 38 electric public utility to maintain its property and equipment in such 39 40 a condition as to enable it to provide safe, adequate, and proper 41 service to each of its customers. 42 (3) The board shall act within 90 days of its receipt of a 43 completed application for designation of a solar power electric 44 generation facility as "connected to the distribution system," to either approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove the 45 46 application. If the proposed solar electric power generation facility does not commence commercial operations within two years 47

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following the date of the designation by the board pursuant to this 1 subsection, the designation of the facility as "connected to the 2 3 distribution system" shall be deemed to be null and void, and the facility shall thereafter be considered not "connected to the 4 5 distribution system." ²[Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section] In 6 s. addition to any other requirements of P.L.1999, c.23 or any other 7 law, rule, regulation or order², a solar electric power generation 8 facility ³that is not net metered or an on-site generation facility and 9 which is ³ located on ² [farmland, or]² land that has been actively 10 devoted to agricultural or horticultural use that is valued, assessed, 11 and taxed pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," 12 13 P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.) at any time within the 10 year period prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending 14 before the Legislature as this bill), shall only be considered 15 "connected to the distribution system" if (1) the board approves 16 ²[a] the² facility's designation pursuant to subsection q. of this 17 section²[,];² or (2) (a) ²[a]² PJM issued ²a² System Impact Study 18 for the facility ²[prior to] on or before² ³[March 31, 2011;] June 19 <u>30, 2011</u>^{3 3} [and], $\frac{3}{(b)}$ ³ [the facility ² is not: (i) net metered, or (ii) 20 an on-site generation facility and (c)]³ the facility² files a notice 21 with the board within 60 days of the effective date of P.L., 22 23 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), 24 indicating its intent to qualify under this ² [paragraph.] subsection, and ³[(d)] (c)³ the facility has been approved as ³[connected] 25 "connected³ to the distribution ³[system] system"³ by the board. 26 Nothing in this subsection shall ³[affect] limit³ the board's 27 authority concerning the review and oversight of facilities, unless 28 29 such facilities are exempt from such review as a result of having been approved pursuant to subsection q. of this section.² 30 t. ${}^{3}[{}^{2}(1)^{2}]^{3}$ ${}^{4}(1)^{4}$ No more than 180 days after the date of 31 enactment of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature 32 as this bill), the board shall, in consultation with the Department of 33 34 Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Economic 35 Development Authority, and, after notice and opportunity for public comment and public hearing, complete a proceeding to establish a 36 37 program to provide SRECs to owners of solar electric power generation facility projects certified by the board ⁴, in consultation 38 with the Department of Environmental Protection,⁴ as being located 39 on a brownfield ⁴, on an area of historic fill⁴ or ⁴on a⁴ a properly 40 closed sanitary landfill facility, ³[²or an existing or proposed 41 commercial, retail, industrial, municipal, professional, recreational, 42 43 transit, commuter, entertainment complex, multi-use, or mixed-use 44 parking lot with a capacity to park 350 or more vehicles where the 45 area to be utilized for the facility is paved or is an impervious

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surface² which shall include, but not be limited to projects located 1 on a brownfield or a properly closed sanitary landfill facility ² or an 2 existing or proposed commercial, retail, industrial, municipal, 3 4 professional, recreational, transit, commuter, entertainment complex, multi-use, or mixed-use parking lot with a capacity to 5 park 350 or more vehicles where the area to be utilized for the 6 facility is paved or is an impervious surface² and including those³ 7 owned or operated by an electric public utility and approved 8 pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1). Projects 9 certified under this subsection shall ${}^{2}[(1)]^{2}$ be considered 10 "connected to the distribution system" ²[and],² shall not require 11 such designation by the board $\frac{3}{3}$ and $\frac{2[(2)]^2}{2}$ shall not be subject to 12 board review required pursuant to subsections q. and r. of this 13 section. ³[Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of P.L.1999, 14 15 c.23 (C.48:3-51) or any other law, rule, regulation, or order to the contrary, for projects certified under this subsection, ²except for 16 those projects involving a facility that is certified as being located 17 on an existing or proposed commercial, retail, industrial, municipal, 18 19 professional, recreational, transit, commuter, entertainment 20 complex, multi-use, or mixed-use parking lot with a capacity to 21 park 350 or more vehicles where the area to be utilized for the facility is paved, or is an impervious surface,² the board shall 22 establish a financial incentive that is designed to supplement the 23 24 SRECs generated by the facility in order to cover the additional cost of constructing and operating a solar electric power generation 25 facility on a brownfield or properly closed sanitary landfill 26 ²facility².]³ ²Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of 27 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51) or any other law, rule, regulation, or 28 29 order to the contrary, for projects certified under this subsection, the 30 board shall establish a financial incentive that is designed to 31 supplement the SRECs generated by the facility in order to cover the additional cost of constructing and operating a solar electric 32 power generation facility on a brownfield⁴, on an area of historic 33 fill⁴ or ⁴on a⁴ properly closed sanitary landfill ³facility³. Any 34 financial benefit realized in relation to a project owned or operated 35 by an electric public utility and approved by the board pursuant to 36 section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1), as a result of the 37 provision of a financial incentive established by the board pursuant 38 to this subsection, shall be credited to ratepayers.² The issuance of 39 SRECs for all solar electric power generation facility projects 40 pursuant to this subsection shall be deemed "Board of Public 41 42 Utilities financial assistance" as provided under section 1 of P.L.2009, c.89 (C.48:2-29.47). 43 44 ³[²(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et 45 seq.) or any other law, rule, regulation, or order to the contrary, the 46

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board may find that a person who owns real property, where there 1 2 is constructed a solar electric power generation facility project 3 certified by the board, pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, 4 as being located on a brownfield, or a properly closed sanitary 5 landfill facility, which shall include, but not be limited to projects 6 located on a brownfield or a properly closed sanitary landfill 7 facility and owned or operated by an electric public utility and 8 approved pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1), 9 that is acquired on or after the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) 10 (pending in the Legislature as this bill), or who operates a solar 11 electric power generation facility project certified by the board, 12 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, as being located on a 13 brownfield or a properly closed sanitary landfill facility, which 14 shall include, but not be limited to projects located on a brownfield 15 or a properly closed sanitary landfill facility and owned or operated 16 by an electric public utility and approved pursuant to section 13 of 17 P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1), after the effective date of P.L., 18 c. (C:) (pending in the Legislature as this bill), shall not be liable 19 for cleanup and removal costs or for any other costs or damages to the State or to any other person for the discharge of a hazardous 20 21 substance provided that: 22 (a) the person acquired or leased the real property after the 23 discharge of that hazardous substance at the real property; 24 (b) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not 25 in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a 26 successor to the discharger or to any person in any way responsible 27 for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for cleanup and 28 removal costs pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1976, c. 141 (C.58:10-29 23.11g); 30 (c) the person, within 30 days after acquisition of the property, 31 gave notice of the discharge to the department in a manner the 32 department prescribes; 33 (d) the person does not disrupt or change, without the 34 department's prior written permission, any engineering or 35 institutional control that is part of a remedial action for the 36 contaminated site; 37 (e) the person does not exacerbate the contamination at the 38 property; 39 (f) the person cooperates with any necessary remediation of the 40 property; and 41 (g) the person complies with any regulations and any permit the 42 department issues pursuant to section 19 of P.L 2009, c.60 43 (C.58:10C-19). 44 Only the person who is liable to clean up and remove the 45 contamination pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-46 23.11g) and who does not have a defense to liability pursuant to 47 subsection d. of that section shall be liable for cleanup and removal

costs or for any other costs or damages.²]³ 1 2 ⁴(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of the "Spill Compensation and Control Act," P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-23.11 et seq.) or any 3 4 other law, rule, regulation, or order to the contrary, the board, in 5 consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, may find that a person who operates a solar electric power generation 6 7 facility project that has commenced operation on or after the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending in the Legislature as 8 9 this bill), which project is certified by the board, in consultation 10 with the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, as being located on a brownfield 11 12 for which a final remediation document has been issued, on an area 13 of historic fill or on a properly closed sanitary landfill facility, 14 which projects shall include, but not be limited to projects located 15 on a brownfield for which a final remediation document has been issued, on an area of historic fill or on a properly closed sanitary 16 17 landfill facility owned or operated by an electric public utility and 18 approved pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1), 19 or a person who owns property acquired on or after the effective 20 date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending in the Legislature as this bill) on 21 which such a solar electric power generation facility project is 22 constructed and operated, shall not be liable for cleanup and 23 removal costs to the Department of Environmental Protection or to 24 any other person for the discharge of a hazardous substance 25 provided that: 26 (a) the person acquired or leased the real property after the 27 discharge of that hazardous substance at the real property; 28 (b) the person did not discharge the hazardous substance, is not 29 in any way responsible for the hazardous substance, and is not a 30 successor to the discharger or to any person in any way responsible 31 for the hazardous substance or to anyone liable for cleanup and 32 removal costs pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1976, c. 141 (C.58:10-33 23.11g); 34 (c) the person, within 30 days after acquisition of the property, 35 gave notice of the discharge to the Department of Environmental 36 Protection in a manner the Department of Environmental Protection 37 prescribes; 38 (d) the person does not disrupt or change, without prior written 39 permission from the Department of Environmental Protection, any 40 engineering or institutional control that is part of a remedial action 41 for the contaminated site or any landfill closure or post-closure 42 requirement; 43 (e) the person does not exacerbate the contamination at the 44 property; 45 (f) the person does not interefere with any necessary 46 remediation of the property;

47 (g) the person complies with any regulations and any permit the

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Department of Environmental Protection issues pursuant to section 1 2 19 of P.L 2009, c.60 (C.58:10C-19) or paragraph (2) of subsection 3 a. of section 6 of P.L.1970, c. 39 (C.13:1E-6); 4 (h) with respect to an area of historic fill, the person has 5 demonstrated pursuant to a preliminary assessment and site 6 investigation, that hazardous substances have not been discharged; 7 and 8 (i) with respect to a properly closed sanitary landfill facility, no 9 person who owns or controls the facility receives, has received, or will receive, with respect to such facility, any funds from any post-10 11 closure escrow account established pursuant to section 10 of P.L.1981, c.306 (C.13:1E-109) for the closure and monitoring of 12 13 the facility. 14 Only the person who is liable to clean up and remove the 15 contamination pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1976, c.141 (C.58:10-16 23.11g) and who does not have a defense to liability pursuant to 17 subsection d. of that section shall be liable for cleanup and removal costs.⁴ 18 19 u. No more than 180 days after the date of enactment of 20 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), 21 the board shall complete a proceeding to establish a registration 22 program. The registration program shall require the owners of solar ³[power]³ electric ³power³ generation facility projects connected to 23 the distribution system to make periodic milestone filings with the 24 25 board in a manner and at such times as determined by the board to provide full disclosure and transparency regarding the overall level 26 27 of development and construction activity of those projects 28 Statewide. v. The issuance of SRECs for all solar ³[power]³ electric 29 ³power³ generation facility projects pursuant to this section, for 30 projects connected to the distribution system with a capacity of one 31 megawatt or greater, shall be deemed "Board of Public Utilities 32 financial assistance" as provided pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2009, 33 <u>c.89 (C.48:2-29.47).</u> 34 35 ²w. No more than 270 days after the date of enactment of 36 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the board shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment and 37 public hearing, complete a proceeding to ³[establish] consider 38 whether to establish³ a program to provide ³[SRECs],³ to owners 39 of solar ³[power]³ electric ³power³ generation facility projects 40 certified by the board as being three megawatts or greater in 41 42 capacity and being net metered, including facilities which are 43 owned or operated by an electric public utility and approved by the board pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1), ³a 44 financial incentive that is designed to supplement the SRECs 45 generated by the facility³ to further the goal of improving the 46

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1 economic competitiveness of commercial and industrial customers taking power from such projects. ³[Projects certified under this 2 subsection (1) shall be considered "connected to the distribution 3 4 system" and shall not require such designation by the board, and (2) 5 shall not be subject to board review required pursuant to subsections q. and r. of this section. For projects approved] If the 6 board determines to establish such a program³ pursuant to this 7 subsection, the board may establish a financial incentive to provide 8 that the board shall issue ³one SREC³ for ³no less than³ every 750 9 ³[kilowatts] kilowatt-hours³ of solar energy generated by the 10 certified projects. Any financial benefit realized in relation to a 11 project owned or operated by an electric public utility and approved 12 13 by the board pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-14 98.1), as a result of the provisions of a financial incentive established by the board pursuant to this subsection, shall be 15 credited to ratepayers. 16 17 x. ³[No more than 180 days after the date of enactment of 18 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the board shall, in consultation with the Department of 19 20 Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and, after notice and opportunity for public 21 22 comment and public hearing, complete a proceeding to establish a program to provide SRECs to owners of solar] Solar³ electric 23 power generation facility projects ³[, including facility projects 24 25 which are owned or operated by an electric public utility and 26 approved by the board pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1), certified by the board as being] that are³ located on 27 an existing or proposed commercial, retail, industrial, municipal, 28 29 professional, recreational, transit, commuter, entertainment 30 complex, multi-use, or mixed-use parking lot with a capacity to park 350 or more vehicles where the area to be utilized for the 31 facility is paved, or an impervious surface ³may be owned or 32 33 operated by an electric public utility and may be approved by the board pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2007, c.340 (C.48:3-98.1)³. 34 ³[Projects certified under this subsection shall (1) be considered 35 "connected to the distribution system" and shall not require such 36 designation by the board and (2) shall not be subject to board 37 review required pursuant to subsections q. and r. of this section.²]³ 38 39 (cf: P.L.2010, c.57, s.2) 40

41 3. This act shall take effect immediately.