

New Hampshire Energy Policies



Eric Steltzer
Energy Policy Analyst
eric.steltzer@nh.gov
Office: 603-271-2155

Overview

- **Past Legislation**
- **Current Legislation**

Past Legislation

- **Renewable Portfolio Standard (2007)**
 - Creates a market for Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)
 - Requires providers of electricity to purchase RECs
 - Four different classes
 - New sources of renewables (wind, ocean, methane, biomass...)
 - New solar
 - Existing biomass/methane
 - Existing small hydro
 - By 2025, 23.8% of electricity will require the purchase of REC's
 - Creates the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) through proceeds from Alternative Compliance Payments

Past Legislation

- **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (2008)**
 - NH along with 9 other states in the Northeast and Mid Atlantic
 - Creates a cap/trade program for controlling carbon dioxide
 - Caps level of CO2 allowed
 - Allows business to purchase and trade CO2 allowances
 - Open and competitive auction process
 - Only applies to electric power sector (fossil fuel fired plants)
 - Allowances can be purchased by anyone
 - Non-profits, businesses, electric sector, etc...
 - Creates the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund (GGERF)
 - Funds energy efficiency for electrical and thermal
 - 10% goes to low-income residential customers

Past Legislation

- **Energy Efficiency and Sust. Energy Board (2008)**
 - Public board with 25 members
 - Charged to “promote and coordinate energy efficiency, demand response, and sustainable energy programs in the state.”
 - Advise on GGERF and REF disbursements
 - Develop strategic plan for energy efficiency and renewable energy
 - Meetings are open to the public

Past Legislation

- **Renewable Energy Incentive Program (2008)**
 - Rebate program for residential renewable energy systems that produce electricity
 - Wind, Photovoltaic
 - < 5 kW peak capacity
 - Includes solar hot water heating systems which displace electricity
 - \$3 per watt, up to \$6,000 or 50% of system cost (whichever is less)
 - Available through Public Utilities Commission
 - Solar thermal rebate coming early Spring 2010

Past Legislation

- **Distributed Generation- SB451 (2008)**

- Allows electric utilities to recover investment into distributed generation (RSA 374:G)
- Limited to renewables (≤ 5 MW) and demand response
- Unitil Project (pending PUC review docket DE-09-137)
 - Time of Use Metering Pilot (Smart Grid)
 - Stratham Fire Station (19.5 kw solar)
 - Exeter High School (100 kw solar, CHP)
 - Concord Low Income Apartment Complex (105 units) - Solar Thermal System
- Relatively new and unexplored

2010 Legislation

- **Net Metering (LSR 2348)**
 - Increase system cap (currently 100kw, new 1MW-2MW)
 - Increase % of allowed on grid (currently 1%, new 3%-5%)
 - Allow Group Metering

2010 Legislation

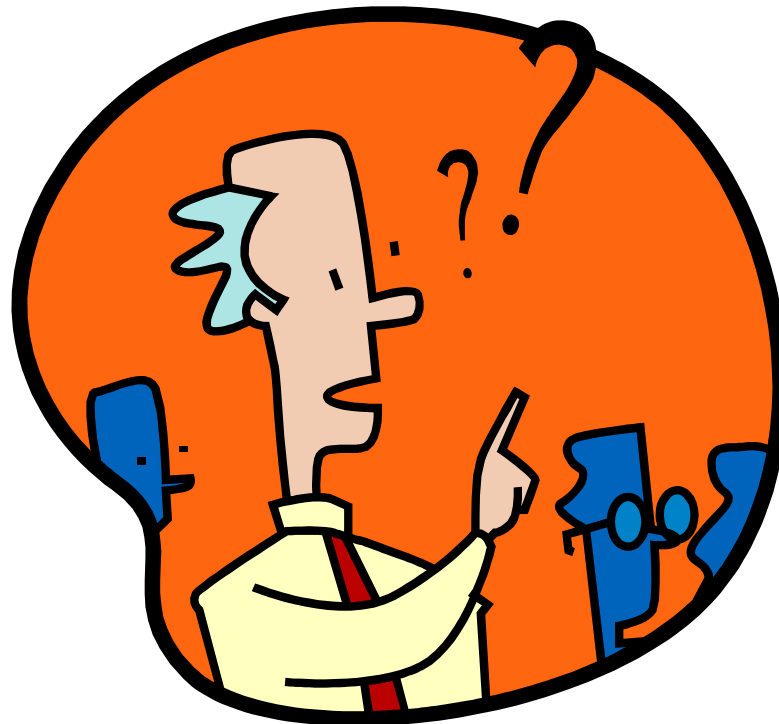
- **Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Districts (LSR 2202)**
 - Two major market barriers
 - Upfront Capital Cost
 - Markets devaluation of energy efficiency
 - Tie Energy Efficiency improvements to properties
 - Transferable between owners
 - Additional assessment on property taxes
 - Paid back with energy savings
 - Permits bonding authority to municipalities

2010 Legislation

- **Property Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency (HB487)**
 - Retained billed from 2009
 - Offers a credit, rather than an exemption, on energy efficient homes, wind turbines and solar panels.
 - One-time \$1,000 credit off property taxes

OEP Legislative Tracking Sheet: www.nh.gov/oep/legislation

Questions



Eric Steltzer
Energy Policy Analyst
eric.steltzer@nh.gov
Office: 603-271-2155

Slide 11 of 10

