

SENATE, No. 2606

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB SMITH

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Allows installation of residential solar energy systems prior to obtaining construction permit or interconnection approval during COVID-19 emergency.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/3/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning certain permitting and interconnection
2 requirements for solar energy systems.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. As used in this act:

8 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Community
9 Affairs.

10 "Construction official" means a qualified person appointed by
11 the municipal appointing authority or the commissioner pursuant to
12 P.L.1975, c.217; (C.52:27D-119 et seq.) to enforce and administer
13 the State Uniform Construction Code within the jurisdiction of the
14 enforcing agency.

15 "Department" means the Department of Community Affairs.

16 "Electrical subcode official" means a qualified person appointed
17 by the municipal appointing authority or the commissioner pursuant
18 to P.L.1975, c.217; (C.52:27D-119 et seq.) to enforce and
19 administer the provisions of the electrical subcode within the
20 jurisdiction of the enforcing agency.

21 "Enforcing agency" means the enforcing agency in any
22 municipality designated to administer and enforce the "State
23 Uniform Construction Code Act" pursuant to section 8 of
24 P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-126), and regulations promulgated
25 thereunder.

26 "Residential solar energy system" means any system which uses
27 solar energy to provide all or a portion of the heating, cooling, or
28 general energy needs of a single-family home, including, but not
29 limited to, nocturnal heat radiation, flat plate or focusing solar
30 collectors, or photovoltaic solar cells.

31 "Subcode" means any of the national model codes, parts thereof,
32 or other codes or standards as adopted by reference in rules and
33 regulations adopted by the department pursuant to P.L.1975, c.217;
34 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.).

35
36 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of P.L.1975, c.217;
37 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.), any rule or regulation adopted pursuant
38 thereto, or any local ordinance to the contrary, a person may
39 construct or install a residential solar energy system prior to filing
40 an application with a construction official or electrical subcode
41 official, or obtaining the required permit therefor, provided that:

42 a. the person obtains the required permit for the construction of
43 the residential solar energy system prior to the connection of the
44 system to any device that stores or utilizes electrical power,
45 including the interconnection of the system to the electric grid; and

46 b. the construction project is carried out in accordance with all
47 other applicable State laws and local ordinances.

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