

HOUSE BILL 440

C5

6lr1046

By: **Delegates Kramer and Fraser-Hidalgo**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2016

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Electric Companies – Installation of Solar Electric Generating Facility –**
3 **Completion of Interconnection**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring an electric company to complete interconnection of a
5 customer-generator's solar electric generating facility with the electric company's
6 distribution facilities by providing acceptance and final approval to operate within a
7 certain period after completion of a certain installation process; specifying that the
8 installation process includes an approved interconnection application, completion of
9 the installation of the solar electric generating facility, and completion of all
10 necessary paperwork and documentation; and generally relating to interconnection
11 of a customer-generator's solar electric generating facility.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Public Utilities
14 Section 7–306.1
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Public Utilities**

20 7–306.1.

21 (a) A person who is negotiating a contract with an eligible customer-generator to
22 install a solar electric generating facility on the customer-generator's property that the
23 customer-generator owns and operates, leases and operates, or contracts with a third party
24 that owns and operates and that requires interconnection with an electric company's
25 distribution facilities:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) shall submit to the customer-generator's electric company a completed
2 application for interconnection of the solar electric generating facility with the electric
3 company's distribution facilities;

4 (2) before receiving the electric company's approval of the application
5 submitted under paragraph (1) of this subsection:

6 (i) may accept payment from the customer-generator in connection
7 with the contract; but

8 (ii) may not begin installation of the solar electric generating facility
9 on the customer-generator's property;

10 (3) shall notify the customer-generator of the electric company's approval
11 or disapproval of the application submitted under paragraph (1) of this subsection; and

12 (4) if the electric company disapproves the application submitted under
13 paragraph (1) of this subsection, shall fully refund any payment from the
14 customer-generator under paragraph (2)(i) of this subsection.

15 (b) On request of a person under subsection (a)(1) of this section, an electric
16 company shall process an application submitted under subsection (a)(1) of this section and
17 notify the person whether the application is approved or disapproved in accordance with a
18 process and time frame specified in regulations adopted by the Commission.

19 **(C) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "INSTALLATION PROCESS" INCLUDES:**

20 **(I) AN APPROVED APPLICATION SUBMITTED UNDER**
21 **SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION;**

22 **(II) COMPLETION OF THE INSTALLATION OF THE**
23 **CUSTOMER-GENERATOR'S SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY; AND**

24 **(III) COMPLETION OF ALL NECESSARY PAPERWORK AND**
25 **DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING A SIGNED INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT,**
26 **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION, AND AN INSPECTION CERTIFICATE.**

27 **(2) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL COMPLETE INTERCONNECTION OF**
28 **A CUSTOMER-GENERATOR'S SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY WITH THE**
29 **ELECTRIC COMPANY'S DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES BY PROVIDING ACCEPTANCE AND**
30 **FINAL APPROVAL TO OPERATE WITHIN 20 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING**
31 **NOTICE OF THE COMPLETION OF THE INSTALLATION PROCESS.**

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 October 1, 2016.