



HOUSE BILL 818 – ELECTRICITY – COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION – CONSOLIDATED BILLING

FAVORABLE with AMENDMENT

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

March 30, 2022

NRG Energy, Inc. (“NRG”) submits these comments in **support of HB 818 – Electricity – Community Solar Energy Generation – Consolidated Billing.**

NRG is the leading integrated energy and home services company powered by its customer-focused strategy, strong balance sheet, and comprehensive sustainability framework. A Fortune 500 company, NRG brings the power of energy to millions of North American customers. Our family of brands help people, organizations and businesses achieve their goals by leveraging decades of market expertise to deliver tailored solutions. Our retail brands serve more than six million customers across North America, including here in Maryland, where NRG owns seven companies that are licensed by the Public Service Commission to serve retail customers.

The NRG retail companies are committed to delivering value added products and services – including access to community solar subscriptions – to our customers. HB 818 will make that easier by enabling customers receive a single bill that includes both their community solar subscription charges and solar energy credits, as well as their electricity supply and delivery charges, from the regulated utility.

NRG supports HB 818 because it ensures that customers have the best experience possible when exercising their right to choose their energy supply services, including community solar. NRG has long advocated for policies that enable customers to receive a single bill from their energy supplier. In fact, in response to a request from NRG and other suppliers, the PSC recently took action to make Supplier Consolidate Billing (SCB) a reality by the end of 2023. Under SCB, suppliers will gain the ability to offer a consolidated bill that includes not only their supply charges, but also the regulated utilities’ delivery charges, and other value-added service charges – including community solar fees and credits – if they so choose. Consolidated bills are essential to meeting customers’ expectations. Customers prefer a single bill for both its convenience and because it enables them to understand their energy purchasing decisions more easily.

While HB 818 will ensure that customers receiving utility consolidated bills enjoy the convenience of a single bill that they demand, NRG offers the below amendment. It is aimed at ensuring that collection of electricity supply and delivery services charges are not impacted by the addition of subscription fees to the utility bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective on HB 818 and for the above reasons NRG urges the Committee to amend the bill and give it a **favorable** report.

Proposed Amendment:

7-306.2 (D)

(6) (i) A SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATION MAY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ELECTRIC COMPANY SERVING THE TERRITORY OF THE COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEM, PARTICIPATE IN UTILITY CONSOLIDATED BILLING PROVIDED BY THE ELECTRIC COMPANY.

(ii) THE ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL NOT PURCHASE THE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE OF A SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATION.

NRG Energy, Inc. Contact Information

Sarah Battisti, Director Government Affairs, NRG Energy, Inc., 804 Carnegie Center, Princeton, NJ 08540, 717-418-7290, sarah.battisti@nrg.com

Leah Gibbons, Senior Director Regulatory Affairs, NRG Energy, Inc., 3711 Market Street, Suite 1000, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 301-509-1508, lgibbons@nrg.com