

House File 477 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 477

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing solar energy ownership or purchasing goals
2 applicable to electric utilities.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **476.44B Solar energy ownership or**
2 **purchase — goals.**

3 1. Solar energy ownership or purchasing goals are
4 established, applicable to electric utilities subject to this
5 division, except utilities that elect rate regulation pursuant
6 to section 476.1A, and in addition to the one hundred five
7 megawatt purchase requirements provided in section 476.44. An
8 electric utility is encouraged to own or purchase the following
9 goal amounts of solar energy each year for a five-year
10 interval, with each succeeding year added to the purchase or
11 ownership goal for the preceding year:

- 12 *a.* By December 31, 2012, twelve megawatts.
13 *b.* By December 31, 2013, thirty-five additional megawatts.
14 *c.* By December 31, 2014, fifty-eight additional megawatts.
15 *d.* By December 31, 2015, eighty additional megawatts.
16 *e.* By December 31, 2016, one hundred fifteen additional
17 megawatts.

18 2. At the conclusion of the five-year interval established
19 in subsection 1, an electric utility complying with the goals
20 would own or purchase a cumulative total of three hundred
21 megawatts of solar energy and shall be encouraged to maintain
22 this ownership or purchase level each year thereafter.

23 3. The board shall by rule establish procedures for
24 encouraging utilities to comply with the goals and monitoring
25 the extent to which compliance is achieved.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill establishes solar energy ownership or purchasing
28 goals applicable to designated electric utilities, in addition
29 to existing alternate energy purchase requirements contained
30 in Code section 476.44.

31 The bill provides that an electric utility is encouraged
32 to own or purchase increasing amounts of solar energy over a
33 five-year period, ranging from 12 megawatts by December 31,
34 2012, to 115 megawatts by December 31, 2016. At the conclusion
35 of the five years, the bill specifies that an electric utility

1 complying with the goal would own or purchase a cumulative
2 total of 300 megawatts of solar energy, and shall be encouraged
3 to maintain this level each year thereafter.

4 The bill directs the Iowa utilities board by rule to
5 establish procedures for encouraging utilities to comply with
6 the goals and monitoring the extent to which compliance is
7 achieved.