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Senate Bill 152

Community Energy

Sectional Analysis

Section 1 adds new statutory sections relating to community energy facilities:

AS 42.05.725 is a conforming section for applicability.

AS 42.05.727 requires utilities to submit a community energy plan to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska for approval and to make their community energy program available to all subscriber organizations that request interconnection subject to a 50-megawatt limit.

AS 42.05.729 establishes bill procedures for community energy subscribers.

- Subsection (a) allows utilities to bill subscribers for all charges authorized by the utility's tariff.
- Subsection (b) prohibits utilities from charging subscribers additional fees without approval from the commission.
- Subsection (c) allows utilities to petition the commission to change their rates designs for community energy subscribers.
- Subsection (d) allows electrical cooperatives to invest in renewable energy projects, with the approval of their member owners.

AS 42.05.731 establishes the authority of the commission to modify this program and adopt additional requirements by regulation.

- Subsection (a) allows the commission to waive or modify the requirements of this bill.
- Subsection (b) allows the commission to adopt regulations governing safety, power quality, and interconnection standards for community energy projects.

AS 42.05.733 establishes community energy facilities and outlines the parameters for how these facilities can operate.

- Subsection (a) sets criteria for who may own a community energy facility.
- (b) sets procedures for enrolling and billing subscribers.
- (c) sets criteria for what must be included in a utilities community energy plan.

- Subsection (d) requires the commission to ensure that community energy plans that are targeted to low- to moderate income households are crafted to achieve tangible cost savings.
- Subsection (e) provides that a subscriber or subscription organization is not considered an electric utility.
- Subsection (f) establishes criteria for community energy facilities to be eligible.
- Subsection (g) establishes requirements for subscriber organizations.
- Subsection (h) defines “low-to moderate-income” household.

AS 42.05.735 provides definitions of terms used in the bill.

Section 2 requires the commission to adopt regulations necessary to implement this bill within one year of its effective date.