

25104298D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1821

Offered January 13, 2025

Prefiled January 6, 2025

A BILL to amend and reenact § 56-585.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to electric utilities; accelerated renewable energy buyers; zero-carbon electricity; energy storage resources.

Patron—Reid

Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 56-585.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 56-585.5. Generation of electricity from renewable and zero carbon sources.

A. As used in this section:

"Accelerated renewable energy buyer" means a commercial or industrial customer of a Phase I or Phase II Utility, irrespective of generation supplier, with an aggregate load over 25 megawatts in the prior calendar year, that enters into arrangements pursuant to subsection G, as certified by the Commission.

"Aggregate load" means the combined electrical load associated with selected accounts of an accelerated renewable energy buyer with the same legal entity name as, or in the names of affiliated entities that control, are controlled by, or are under common control of, such legal entity or are the names of affiliated entities under a common parent.

"Control" has the same meaning as provided in § 56-585.1:11.

"Falling water" means hydroelectric resources, including run-of-river generation from a combined pumped-storage and run-of-river facility. "Falling water" does not include electricity generated from pumped-storage facilities.

"Low-income qualifying projects" means a project that provides a minimum of 50 percent of the respective electric output to low-income utility customers as that term is defined in § 56-576.

"Phase I Utility" has the same meaning as provided in subdivision A 1 of § 56-585.1.

"Phase II Utility" has the same meaning as provided in subdivision A 1 of § 56-585.1.

"Previously developed project site" means any property, including related buffer areas, if any, that has been previously disturbed or developed for non-single-family residential, nonagricultural, or nonsilvicultural use, regardless of whether such property currently is being used for any purpose. "Previously developed project site" includes a brownfield as defined in § 10.1-1230 or any parcel that has been previously used (i) for a retail, commercial, or industrial purpose; (ii) as a parking lot; (iii) as the site of a parking lot canopy or structure; (iv) for mining, which is any lands affected by coal mining that took place before August 3, 1977, or any lands upon which extraction activities have been permitted by the Department of Energy under Title 45.2; (v) for quarrying; or (vi) as a landfill.

"Total electric energy" means total electric energy sold to retail customers in the Commonwealth service territory of a Phase I or Phase II Utility, other than accelerated renewable energy buyers, by the incumbent electric utility or other retail supplier of electric energy in the previous calendar year, excluding an amount equivalent to the annual percentages of the electric energy that was supplied to such customer from nuclear generating plants located within the Commonwealth in the previous calendar year, provided such nuclear units were operating by July 1, 2020, or from any zero-carbon electric generating facilities not otherwise RPS eligible sources and placed into service in the Commonwealth after July 1, 2030.

"Zero-carbon electricity" means electricity generated by any generating unit that does not emit carbon dioxide as a by-product of combusting fuel to generate electricity. "Zero-carbon electricity" does not include electricity generated by (i) hydrogen-fueled electric generating resources, unless the hydrogen fuel utilized is produced using only zero-carbon electricity resources, or (ii) electric generating resources that co-fire hydrogen and natural gas.

B. 1. By December 31, 2024, except for any coal-fired electric generating units (i) jointly owned with a cooperative utility or (ii) owned and operated by a Phase II Utility located in the coalfield region of the Commonwealth that co-fires with biomass, any Phase I and Phase II Utility shall retire all generating units principally fueled by oil with a rated capacity in excess of 500 megawatts and all coal-fired electric generating units operating in the Commonwealth.

2. By December 31, 2045, except for biomass-fired electric generating units that do not co-fire with coal, each Phase I and II Utility shall retire all other electric generating units located in the Commonwealth that emit carbon as a by-product of combusting fuel to generate electricity.

3. A Phase I or Phase II Utility may petition the Commission for relief from the requirements of this subsection on the basis that the requirement would threaten the reliability or security of electric service to

INTRODUCED

HB1821

59 customers. The Commission shall consider in-state and regional transmission entity resources and shall
60 evaluate the reliability of each proposed retirement on a case-by-case basis in ruling upon any such petition.

61 C. Each Phase I and Phase II Utility shall participate in a renewable energy portfolio standard program
62 (RPS Program) that establishes annual goals for the sale of renewable energy to all retail customers in the
63 utility's service territory, other than accelerated renewable energy buyers pursuant to subsection G, regardless
64 of whether such customers purchase electric supply service from the utility or from suppliers other than the
65 utility. To comply with the RPS Program, each Phase I and Phase II Utility shall procure and retire
66 Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) originating from renewable energy standard eligible sources (RPS
67 eligible sources). For purposes of complying with the RPS Program from 2021 to 2024, a Phase I and Phase
68 II Utility may use RECs from any renewable energy facility, as defined in § 56-576, provided that such
69 facilities are located in the Commonwealth or are physically located within the PJM Interconnection, LLC
70 (PJM) region. However, at no time during this period or thereafter may any Phase I or Phase II Utility use
71 RECs from (i) renewable thermal energy, (ii) renewable thermal energy equivalent, or (iii) biomass-fired
72 facilities that are outside the Commonwealth. From compliance year 2025 and all years after, each Phase I
73 and Phase II Utility may only use RECs from RPS eligible sources for compliance with the RPS Program.

74 In order to qualify as RPS eligible sources, such sources must be (a) electric-generating resources that
75 generate electric energy derived from solar or wind located in the Commonwealth or off the Commonwealth's
76 Atlantic shoreline or in federal waters and interconnected directly into the Commonwealth or physically
77 located within the PJM region; (b) falling water resources located in the Commonwealth or physically located
78 within the PJM region that were in operation as of January 1, 2020, that are owned by a Phase I or Phase II
79 Utility or for which a Phase I or Phase II Utility has entered into a contract prior to January 1, 2020, to
80 purchase the energy, capacity, and renewable attributes of such falling water resources; (c) non-utility-owned
81 resources from falling water that (1) are less than 65 megawatts, (2) began commercial operation after
82 December 31, 1979, or (3) added incremental generation representing greater than 50 percent of the original
83 nameplate capacity after December 31, 1979, provided that such resources are located in the Commonwealth
84 or are physically located within the PJM region; (d) waste-to-energy or landfill gas-fired generating resources
85 located in the Commonwealth and in operation as of January 1, 2020, provided that such resources do not use
86 waste heat from fossil fuel combustion; (e) geothermal heating and cooling systems located in the
87 Commonwealth; or (f) biomass-fired facilities in operation in the Commonwealth and in operation as of
88 January 1, 2023, that (1) supply no more than 10 percent of their annual net electrical generation to the
89 electric grid or no more than 15 percent of their annual total useful energy to any entity other than the
90 manufacturing facility to which the generating source is interconnected and are fueled by forest-product
91 manufacturing residuals, including pulping liquor, bark, paper recycling residuals, biowastes, or biomass, as
92 described in subdivisions A 1, 2, and 4 of § 10.1-1308.1, provided that biomass as described in subdivision A
93 1 of § 10.1-1308.1 results from harvesting in accordance with best management practices for the sustainable
94 harvesting of biomass developed and enforced by the State Forester pursuant to § 10.1-1105, or (2) are owned
95 by a Phase I or Phase II Utility, have less than 52 megawatts capacity, and are fueled by forest-product
96 manufacturing residuals, biowastes, or biomass, as described in subdivisions A 1, 2, and 4 of § 10.1-1308.1,
97 provided that biomass as described in subdivision A 1 of § 10.1-1308.1 results from harvesting in accordance
98 with best management practices for the sustainable harvesting of biomass developed and enforced by the
99 State Forester pursuant to § 10.1-1105. Regardless of any future maintenance, expansion, or refurbishment
100 activities, the total amount of RECs that may be sold by any RPS eligible source using biomass in any year
101 shall be no more than the number of megawatt hours of electricity produced by that facility in 2022; however,
102 in no year may any RPS eligible source using biomass sell RECs in excess of the actual megawatt-hours of
103 electricity generated by such facility that year. In order to comply with the RPS Program, each Phase I and
104 Phase II Utility may use and retire the environmental attributes associated with any existing owned or
105 contracted solar, wind, falling water, or biomass electric generating resources in operation, or proposed for
106 operation, in the Commonwealth or solar, wind, or falling water resources physically located within the PJM
107 region, with such resource qualifying as a Commonwealth-located resource for purposes of this subsection, as
108 of January 1, 2020, provided that such renewable attributes are verified as RECs consistent with the PJM-EIS
109 Generation Attribute Tracking System.

110 1. The RPS Program requirements shall be a percentage of the total electric energy sold in the previous
111 calendar year and shall be implemented in accordance with the following schedule:

Phase I Utilities		Phase II Utilities	
Year	RPS Program Requirement	Year	RPS Program Requirement
2021	6%	2021	14%
2022	7%	2022	17%
2023	8%	2023	20%
2024	10%	2024	23%
2025	14%	2025	26%
2026	17%	2026	29%

120	2027	20%	2027	32%
121	2028	24%	2028	35%
122	2029	27%	2029	38%
123	2030	30%	2030	41%
124	2031	33%	2031	45%
125	2032	36%	2032	49%
126	2033	39%	2033	52%
127	2034	42%	2034	55%
128	2035	45%	2035	59%
129	2036	53%	2036	63%
130	2037	53%	2037	67%
131	2038	57%	2038	71%
132	2039	61%	2039	75%
133	2040	65%	2040	79%
134	2041	68%	2041	83%
135	2042	71%	2042	87%
136	2043	74%	2043	91%
137	2044	77%	2044	95%
138	2045	80%	2045 and	100%
139			thereafter	
140	2046	84%		
141	2047	88%		
142	2048	92%		
143	2049	96%		
144	2050 and	100%		
145	thereafter			

146 2. A Phase II Utility shall meet one percent of the RPS Program requirements in any given compliance
147 year with solar, wind, or anaerobic digestion resources of one megawatt or less located in the
148 Commonwealth, with not more than 3,000 kilowatts at any single location or at contiguous locations owned
149 by the same entity or affiliated entities and, to the extent that low-income qualifying projects are available,
150 then no less than 25 percent of such one percent shall be composed of low-income qualifying projects.

151 3. Beginning with the 2025 compliance year and thereafter, at least 75 percent of all RECs used by a
152 Phase II Utility in a compliance period shall come from RPS eligible resources located in the
153 Commonwealth.

154 4. Any Phase I or Phase II Utility may apply renewable energy sales achieved or RECs acquired in excess
155 of the sales requirement for that RPS Program to the sales requirements for RPS Program requirements in the
156 year in which it was generated and the five calendar years after the renewable energy was generated or the
157 RECs were created. To the extent that a Phase I or Phase II Utility procures RECs for RPS Program
158 compliance from resources the utility does not own, the utility shall be entitled to recover the costs of such
159 certificates at its election pursuant to § 56-249.6 or subdivision A 5 d of § 56-585.1.

160 5. Energy from a geothermal heating and cooling system is eligible for inclusion in meeting the
161 requirements of the RPS Program. RECs from a geothermal heating and cooling system are created based on
162 the amount of energy, converted from BTUs to kilowatt-hours, that is generated by a geothermal heating and
163 cooling system for space heating and cooling or water heating. The Commission shall determine the form and
164 manner in which such RECs are verified.

165 D. Each Phase I or Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to procure
166 zero-carbon electricity generating capacity as set forth in this subsection and energy storage resources as set
167 forth in subsection E. To the extent that a Phase I or Phase II Utility constructs or acquires new zero-carbon
168 generating facilities or energy storage resources, the utility shall petition the Commission for the recovery of
169 the costs of such facilities, at the utility's election, either through its rates for generation and distribution
170 services or through a rate adjustment clause pursuant to subdivision A 6 of § 56-585.1. All costs not sought
171 for recovery through a rate adjustment clause pursuant to subdivision A 6 of § 56-585.1 associated with
172 generating facilities provided by sunlight or onshore or offshore wind are also eligible to be applied by the
173 utility as a customer credit reinvestment offset as provided in subdivision A 8 of § 56-585.1. Costs associated
174 with the purchase of energy, capacity, or environmental attributes from facilities owned by the persons other
175 than the utility required by this subsection shall be recovered by the utility either through its rates for
176 generation and distribution services or pursuant to § 56-249.6.

177 1. Each Phase I Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to construct, acquire, or
178 enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of 600 megawatts of
179 generating capacity using energy derived from sunlight or onshore wind.

180 a. By December 31, 2023, each Phase I Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
181 construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of
182 at least 200 megawatts of generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy derived from
183 sunlight or onshore wind, and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured shall be from the purchase of
184 energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by persons other
185 than the utility, with the remainder, in the aggregate, being from construction or acquisition by such Phase I
186 Utility.

187 b. By December 31, 2027, each Phase I Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
188 construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of
189 at least 200 megawatts of additional generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy derived
190 from sunlight or onshore wind, and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured shall be from the
191 purchase of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by
192 persons other than the utility, with the remainder, in the aggregate, being from construction or acquisition by
193 such Phase I Utility.

194 c. By December 31, 2030, each Phase I Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
195 construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of
196 at least 200 megawatts of additional generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy derived
197 from sunlight or onshore wind, and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured shall be from the
198 purchase of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by
199 persons other than the utility, with the remainder, in the aggregate, being from construction or acquisition by
200 such Phase I Utility.

201 d. Nothing in this subdivision 1 shall prohibit such Phase I Utility from constructing, acquiring, or
202 entering into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of more than 600
203 megawatts of generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy derived from sunlight or
204 onshore wind, provided the utility receives approval from the Commission pursuant to §§ 56-580 and
205 56-585.1.

206 2. By December 31, 2035, each Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
207 (i) construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes
208 of 16,100 megawatts of generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy derived from
209 sunlight or onshore wind, which shall include 1,100 megawatts of solar generation of a nameplate capacity
210 not to exceed three megawatts per individual project and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured
211 shall be from the purchase of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar facilities owned by
212 persons other than a utility, including utility affiliates and deregulated affiliates and (ii) pursuant to §
213 56-585.1:11, construct or purchase one or more offshore wind generation facilities located off the
214 Commonwealth's Atlantic shoreline or in federal waters and interconnected directly into the Commonwealth
215 with an aggregate capacity of up to 5,200 megawatts. At least 200 megawatts of the 16,100 megawatts shall
216 be placed on previously developed project sites.

217 a. By December 31, 2024, each Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
218 construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of
219 at least 3,000 megawatts of generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy derived from
220 sunlight or onshore wind, and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured shall be from the purchase of
221 energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by persons other
222 than the utility, with the remainder, in the aggregate, being from construction or acquisition by such Phase II
223 Utility.

224 b. By December 31, 2027, each Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
225 construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of
226 at least 3,000 megawatts of additional generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy
227 derived from sunlight or onshore wind, and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured shall be from the
228 purchase of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by
229 persons other than the utility, with the remainder, in the aggregate, being from construction or acquisition by
230 such Phase II Utility.

231 c. By December 31, 2030, each Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
232 construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of
233 at least 4,000 megawatts of additional generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy
234 derived from sunlight or onshore wind, and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured shall be from the
235 purchase of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by
236 persons other than the utility, with the remainder, in the aggregate, being from construction or acquisition by
237 such Phase II Utility.

238 d. By December 31, 2035, each Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
239 construct, acquire, or enter into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of
240 at least 6,100 megawatts of additional generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy

241 derived from sunlight or onshore wind, and 35 percent of such generating capacity procured shall be from the
242 purchase of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by
243 persons other than the utility, with the remainder, in the aggregate, being from construction or acquisition by
244 such Phase II Utility.

245 e. Nothing in this subdivision 2 shall prohibit such Phase II Utility from constructing, acquiring, or
246 entering into agreements to purchase the energy, capacity, and environmental attributes of more than 16,100
247 megawatts of generating capacity located in the Commonwealth using energy derived from sunlight or
248 onshore wind, provided the utility receives approval from the Commission pursuant to §§ 56-580 and
249 56-585.1.

250 3. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a utility from petitioning the Commission to construct or acquire
251 zero-carbon electricity or from entering into contracts to procure the energy, capacity, and environmental
252 attributes of zero-carbon electricity generating resources in excess of the requirements in subsection B. The
253 Commission shall determine whether to approve such petitions on a stand-alone basis pursuant to §§ 56-580
254 and 56-585.1, provided that the Commission's review shall also consider whether the proposed generating
255 capacity (i) is necessary to meet the utility's native load, (ii) is likely to lower customer fuel costs, (iii) will
256 provide economic development opportunities in the Commonwealth, and (iv) serves a need that cannot be
257 more affordably met with demand-side or energy storage resources.

258 Each Phase I and Phase II Utility shall, at least once every year, conduct a request for proposals for new
259 solar and wind resources. Such requests shall quantify and describe the utility's need for energy, capacity, or
260 renewable energy certificates. The requests for proposals shall be publicly announced and made available for
261 public review on the utility's website at least 45 days prior to the closing of such request for proposals. The
262 requests for proposals shall provide, at a minimum, the following information: (a) the size, type, and timing
263 of resources for which the utility anticipates contracting; (b) any minimum thresholds that must be met by
264 respondents; (c) major assumptions to be used by the utility in the bid evaluation process, including
265 environmental emission standards; (d) detailed instructions for preparing bids so that bids can be evaluated on
266 a consistent basis; (e) the preferred general location of additional capacity; and (f) specific information
267 concerning the factors involved in determining the price and non-price criteria used for selecting winning
268 bids. A utility may evaluate responses to requests for proposals based on any criteria that it deems reasonable
269 but shall at a minimum consider the following in its selection process: (1) the status of a particular project's
270 development; (2) the age of existing generation facilities; (3) the demonstrated financial viability of a project
271 and the developer; (4) a developer's prior experience in the field; (5) the location and effect on the
272 transmission grid of a generation facility; (6) benefits to the Commonwealth that are associated with
273 particular projects, including regional economic development and the use of goods and services from Virginia
274 businesses; and (7) the environmental impacts of particular resources, including impacts on air quality within
275 the Commonwealth and the carbon intensity of the utility's generation portfolio.

276 4. In connection with the requirements of this subsection, each Phase I and Phase II Utility shall,
277 commencing in 2020 and concluding in 2035, submit annually a plan and petition for approval for the
278 development of new solar and onshore wind generation capacity. Such plan shall reflect, in the aggregate and
279 over its duration, the requirements of subsection D concerning the allocation percentages for construction or
280 purchase of such capacity. Such petition shall contain any request for approval to construct such facilities
281 pursuant to subsection D of § 56-580 and a request for approval or update of a rate adjustment clause
282 pursuant to subdivision A 6 of § 56-585.1 to recover the costs of such facilities. Such plan shall also include
283 the utility's plan to meet the energy storage project targets of subsection E, including the goal of installing at
284 least 10 percent of such energy storage projects behind the meter. In determining whether to approve the
285 utility's plan and any associated petition requests, the Commission shall determine whether they are
286 reasonable and prudent and shall give due consideration to (i) the RPS and carbon dioxide reduction
287 requirements in this section; (ii) the promotion of new renewable generation and energy storage resources
288 within the Commonwealth, and associated economic development; and (iii) fuel savings projected to be
289 achieved by the plan. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Commission's final order
290 regarding any such petition and associated requests shall be entered by the Commission not more than six
291 months after the date of the filing of such petition.

292 5. If, in any year, a Phase I or Phase II Utility is unable to meet the compliance obligation of the RPS
293 Program requirements or if the cost of RECs necessary to comply with RPS Program requirements exceeds
294 \$45 per megawatt hour, such supplier shall be obligated to make a deficiency payment equal to \$45 for each
295 megawatt-hour shortfall for the year of noncompliance, except that the deficiency payment for any shortfall
296 in procuring RECs for solar, wind, or anaerobic digesters located in the Commonwealth shall be \$75 per
297 megawatts hour for resources one megawatt and lower. The amount of any deficiency payment shall increase
298 by one percent annually after 2021. A Phase I or Phase II Utility shall be entitled to recover the costs of such
299 payments as a cost of compliance with the requirements of this subsection pursuant to subdivision A 5 d of §
300 56-585.1. All proceeds from the deficiency payments shall be deposited into an interest-bearing account
301 administered by the Department of Energy. In administering this account, the Department of Energy shall

302 manage the account as follows: (i) 50 percent of total revenue shall be directed to job training programs in
303 historically economically disadvantaged communities; (ii) 16 percent of total revenue shall be directed to
304 energy efficiency measures for public facilities; (iii) 30 percent of total revenue shall be directed to renewable
305 energy programs located in historically economically disadvantaged communities; and (iv) four percent of
306 total revenue shall be directed to administrative costs.

307 For any project constructed pursuant to this subsection or subsection E, a utility shall, subject to a
308 competitive procurement process, procure equipment from a Virginia-based or United States-based
309 manufacturer using materials or product components made in Virginia or the United States, if reasonably
310 available and competitively priced.

311 E. To enhance reliability and performance of the utility's generation and distribution system, each Phase I
312 and Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to construct or acquire new,
313 utility-owned energy storage resources.

314 1. By December 31, 2035, each Phase I Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
315 construct or acquire 400 megawatts of energy storage capacity. Nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit a
316 Phase I Utility from constructing or acquiring more than 400 megawatts of energy storage, provided that the
317 utility receives approval from the Commission pursuant to §§ 56-580 and 56-585.1.

318 2. By December 31, 2035, each Phase II Utility shall petition the Commission for necessary approvals to
319 construct or acquire 2,700 megawatts of energy storage capacity. Nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit a
320 Phase II Utility from constructing or acquiring more than 2,700 megawatts of energy storage, provided that
321 the utility receives approval from the Commission pursuant to §§ 56-580 and 56-585.1.

322 3. No single energy storage project shall exceed 500 megawatts in size, except that a Phase II Utility may
323 procure a single energy storage project up to 800 megawatts.

324 4. All energy storage projects procured pursuant to this subsection shall meet the competitive procurement
325 protocols established in subdivision D 3.

326 5. After July 1, 2020, at least 35 percent of the energy storage facilities placed into service shall be (i)
327 purchased by the public utility from a party other than the public utility or (ii) owned by a party other than a
328 public utility, with the capacity from such facilities sold to the public utility. By January 1, 2021, the
329 Commission shall adopt regulations to achieve the deployment of energy storage for the Commonwealth
330 required in subdivisions 1 and 2, including regulations that set interim targets and update existing utility
331 planning and procurement rules. The regulations shall include programs and mechanisms to deploy energy
332 storage, including competitive solicitations, behind-the-meter incentives, non-wires alternatives programs,
333 and peak demand reduction programs.

334 F. All costs incurred by a Phase I or Phase II Utility related to compliance with the requirements of this
335 section or pursuant to § 56-585.1:11, including (i) costs of generation facilities powered by sunlight or
336 onshore or offshore wind, or energy storage facilities, that are constructed or acquired by a Phase I or Phase II
337 Utility after July 1, 2020, (ii) costs of capacity, energy, or environmental attributes from generation facilities
338 powered by sunlight or onshore or offshore wind, or falling water, or energy storage facilities purchased by
339 the utility from persons other than the utility through agreements after July 1, 2020, and (iii) all other costs of
340 compliance, including costs associated with the purchase of RECs associated with RPS Program
341 requirements pursuant to this section shall be recovered from all retail customers in the service territory of a
342 Phase I or Phase II Utility as a non-bypassable charge, irrespective of the generation supplier of such
343 customer, except (a) as provided in subsection G for an accelerated renewable energy buyer or (b) as
344 provided in subdivision C 3 of § 56-585.1:11, with respect to the costs of an offshore wind generation
345 facility, for a PIPP eligible utility customer or an advanced clean energy buyer or qualifying large general
346 service customer, as those terms are defined in § 56-585.1:11. If a Phase I or Phase II Utility serves
347 customers in more than one jurisdiction, such utility shall recover all of the costs of compliance with the RPS
348 Program requirements from its Virginia customers through the applicable cost recovery mechanism, and all
349 associated energy, capacity, and environmental attributes shall be assigned to Virginia to the extent that such
350 costs are requested but not recovered from any system customers outside the Commonwealth.

351 By September 1, 2020, the Commission shall direct the initiation of a proceeding for each Phase I and
352 Phase II Utility to review and determine the amount of such costs, net of benefits, that should be allocated to
353 retail customers within the utility's service territory which have elected to receive electric supply service from
354 a supplier of electric energy other than the utility, and shall direct that tariff provisions be implemented to
355 recover those costs from such customers beginning no later than January 1, 2021. Thereafter, such charges
356 and tariff provisions shall be updated and tried up by the utility on an annual basis, subject to continuing
357 review and approval by the Commission.

358 G. 1. An accelerated renewable energy buyer *or group of accelerated renewable buyers* may contract with
359 a Phase I or Phase II Utility, or a person other than a Phase I or Phase II Utility, to obtain (i) RECs from RPS
360 eligible resources or (ii) bundled capacity, energy, and RECs from solar ~~or~~, wind, *or zero-carbon electricity*
361 generation resources located within the PJM region and initially placed in commercial operation after January
362 1, 2015, including any contract *or tariff* with a utility for such generation resources that does not allocate *the*

363 *cost of such resources to or recover the cost of such resources from any other customer customers of the*
 364 *utility the cost of such resources that have not voluntarily agreed to pay such cost. Such an accelerated*
 365 *renewable energy buyer buyers may offset all or a portion of its their electric load for purposes of RPS*
 366 *compliance through such arrangements. An accelerated renewable energy buyer shall be exempt from the*
 367 *assignment of non-bypassable RPS compliance costs pursuant to subsection F, with the exception of the costs*
 368 *of an offshore wind generating facility pursuant to § 56-585.1:11, based on the amount of RECs or*
 369 *zero-carbon electricity obtained pursuant to this subsection in proportion to the customer's total electric*
 370 *energy consumption, on an annual basis. An accelerated renewable energy buyer obtaining RECs only shall*
 371 *not be exempt from costs related to procurement of new solar or onshore wind generation capacity, energy, or*
 372 *environmental attributes, or energy storage facilities, by the utility pursuant to subsections D and E, however,*
 373 *an accelerated renewable energy buyer that is a customer of a Phase II Utility and was subscribed, as of*
 374 *March 1, 2020, to a voluntary companion experimental tariff offering of the utility for the purchase of*
 375 *renewable attributes from renewable energy facilities that requires a renewable facilities agreement and the*
 376 *purchase of a minimum of 2,000 renewable attributes annually, shall be exempt from allocation of the net*
 377 *costs related to procurement of new solar or onshore wind generation capacity, energy, or environmental*
 378 *attributes, or energy storage facilities, by the utility pursuant to subsections D and E, based on the amount of*
 379 *RECs associated with the customer's renewable facilities agreements associated with such tariff offering as of*
 380 *that date in proportion to the customer's total electric energy consumption, on an annual basis. To the extent*
 381 *that an accelerated renewable energy buyer contracts for the capacity of new solar or, wind, or zero-carbon*
 382 *electricity generation resources pursuant to this subsection, the aggregate amount of such nameplate capacity*
 383 *shall be offset from the utility's procurement requirements pursuant to subsection D. All RECs and*
 384 *zero-carbon electricity associated with contracts or voluntary tariffs entered into by an accelerated renewable*
 385 *energy buyer with the utility, or a person other than the utility, for an RPS Program shall not be credited to*
 386 *the utility's compliance with its RPS requirements, and the calculation of the utility's RPS Program*
 387 *requirements shall not include the electric load covered by customers certified as accelerated renewable*
 388 *energy buyers. An accelerated renewable energy buyer or group of accelerated renewable energy buyers may*
 389 *contract with a Phase I or Phase II Utility, or a person other than a Phase I or Phase II Utility, to offset all*
 390 *or a portion of their capacity needs through the procurement of energy storage resources, provided that the*
 391 *costs of such resources are not recovered from any of the utility's customers who have not voluntarily agreed*
 392 *to pay for such costs. Any such accelerated renewable energy buyer or group shall receive credit for the*
 393 *capacity value such resources provide.*

394 2. Each Phase I or Phase II Utility shall certify, and verify as necessary, to the Commission that the
 395 accelerated renewable energy buyer has satisfied the exemption requirements of this subsection for each year,
 396 or an accelerated renewable energy buyer may choose to certify satisfaction of this exemption by reporting to
 397 the Commission individually. The Commission may promulgate such rules and regulations as may be
 398 necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

399 3. Provided that no incremental costs associated with any contract between a Phase I or Phase II Utility
 400 and an accelerated renewable energy buyer is allocated to or recovered from any other customer of the utility,
 401 any such contract with an accelerated renewable energy buyer that is a jurisdictional customer of the utility
 402 shall not be deemed a special rate or contract requiring Commission approval pursuant to § 56-235.2.

403 H. No customer of a Phase II Utility with a peak demand in excess of 100 megawatts in 2019 that elected
 404 pursuant to subdivision A 3 of § 56-577 to purchase electric energy from a competitive service provider prior
 405 to April 1, 2019, shall be allocated any non-bypassable charges pursuant to subsection F for such period that
 406 the customer is not purchasing electric energy from the utility, and such customer's electric load shall not be
 407 included in the utility's RPS Program requirements. No customer of a Phase I Utility that elected pursuant to
 408 subdivision A 3 of § 56-577 to purchase electric energy from a competitive service provider prior to February
 409 1, 2019, shall be allocated any non-bypassable charges pursuant to subsection F for such period that the
 410 customer is not purchasing electric energy from the utility, and such customer's electric load shall not be
 411 included in the utility's RPS Program requirements.

412 I. In any petition by a Phase I or Phase II Utility for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to
 413 construct and operate an electrical generating facility that generates electric energy derived from sunlight
 414 submitted pursuant to § 56-580, such utility shall demonstrate that the proposed facility was subject to
 415 competitive procurement or solicitation as set forth in subdivision D 3.

416 J. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, for the purposes of this section, any falling water
 417 generation facility located in the Commonwealth and commencing commercial operations prior to July 1,
 418 2024, shall be considered a renewable energy portfolio standard (RPS) eligible source.

419 K. Nothing in this section shall apply to any entity organized under Chapter 9.1 (§ 56-231.15 et seq.).

420 L. The Commission shall adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the
 421 provisions of this section, including a requirement that participants verify whether the RPS Program
 422 requirements are met in accordance with this section.

423 **2. That the State Corporation Commission shall promulgate any rules or regulations necessary to**

424 ensure that accelerated renewable energy buyers receive fair credit for any energy storage resources
425 procured pursuant to subsection G of § 56-585.5 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by this act, which
426 credit shall be based on capacity provided rather than energy consumed and shall consider the
427 effective load-carrying capacity provided by such resources.
428 3. That the State Corporation Commission shall ensure that any distribution and transmission costs
429 associated with new energy generation resources procured pursuant to subsection G of § 56-585.5 of
430 the Code of Virginia, as amended by this act, are justly and reasonably allocated.