Senate Bill 175

Version: Introduced

Patron: VanValkenburg

Title: Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard program requirements; power purchase agreements.

Summary: Amends certain renewable energy portfolio standard program requirements for Dominion Energy Virginia, including the annual percentage of program requirements to be met with behind-the-meter solar, wind, or anaerobic digestion resources of three megawatts or less located in the Commonwealth. The bill also removes the requirement for a solar-powered or wind-powered generation facility to have a capacity of no less than 50 kilowatts to qualify for a third party power purchase agreement under a pilot program. The bill provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to encourage development on previously developed project sites, as defined in existing law, to reduce the land use impacts of solar development.

Effective Date(s): July 1, 2026

Amendment Necessary: ☐ Budget, Item ###
☐ Technical, see *Technical Note* below
☒ None

Fiscal Summary

The State Corporation Commission does not anticipate a fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis

Revenue

When considered individually, the SCC can meet this bill's requirements with the adjustments identified in the fiscal impact summary table and within its existing funding authority. If enacted, the SCC will review operational and fiscal impacts of this legislation along with other enacted 2026 electric utility bills to determine implementation.

Expenditures

None.

Change in FTE

None.

Other Comments

This bill requires additional workload for the RPS proceeding, as well as additional proceedings to update the "GATS" business rules (likely 2), which is a rulemaking proceeding, and the 3rd Party PPA Pilot Program. If the "floor" for the Pilot Program is removed, this could lead to an increase of residential submissions to the Pilot Program per month likely necessitating the need for automation to manage the volume efficiently.

Technical Note

None.