

(2) on or before November 1, 2007, by regulation or order, revise Maryland's interconnection standards and procedures:

(i) to be consistent with nationally adopted interconnection standards and procedures; and

(ii) to facilitate and encourage a simplified connection of small distributed generators to the grid in a manner that ensures the safe and reliable operation of the grid.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Public Service Commission shall investigate the benefits to residential customers of using a regulatory rate-making mechanism that separates electric company distribution sales from electric company distribution profits, including a mechanism that allows electric companies to recover fixed distribution costs on a flat rate basis instead of on a consumption rate basis.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the requirement under § 7-306 (h)(5) of the Public Utility Companies Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, for an eligible customer-generator to own and have title to all renewable energy attributes or renewable energy credits associated with any electricity produced by its electric generating system shall apply prospectively and may not be construed to:

(1) impair contracts that were entered into before the effective date of Section 1 of this Act; or

(2) prohibit contracts between an eligible customer-generator and another entity entered into on or after the effective date of Section 1 of this Act that explicitly transfers ownership of the renewable energy attributes or renewable energy credits from the eligible customer-generator to another entity.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, as part of its annual report due February 1, 2014 under § 7-712 of the Public Utility Companies Article, the Public Service Commission shall report its findings and recommendations for modification, if any, to the renewable energy portfolio standard provisions under Title 7, Subtitle 7 of the Public Utility Companies Article based on a thorough study of the implementation of the renewable energy portfolio standard requirements since 2006. The study conducted by the Commission shall:

(1) be based on the results of the renewable energy portfolio standard requirements effective through 2013;

(2) determine whether the intended goals of the renewable energy portfolio standard ~~provisions~~ are being met and are anticipated to be met in the future;