



Clean Energy Advisory Board – Purpose and Membership

Legislation: H 2741 (2019), Delegate Aird (chief patron)

Code of VA § 45.1-395 and 396.

Purpose: Establish a pilot program for disbursing loans or rebates for the installation of solar energy infrastructure in low-income and moderate-income households.

Composition: 15 voting members: 14 Non-legislative members, one ex officio (DMME Director or designee). Non-legislative members are appointed to three-year terms, with specific organizational representation and subject area expertise. Appointees may be made to fill vacancies; members may be re-appointed.

Governance: Board shall elect a chair and vice-chair from among its membership. Majority of member shall constitute a quorum. Meetings shall be held at the call of the chair, or whenever the majority of members so request



Clean Energy Advisory Board – Powers and Duties

§ 45.1-397.

- 1. Advise the Director on management of the Low-to-Moderate Income Solar Loan and Rebate Fund (Fund)*
- 2. Develop, establish and operate, with the approval of the Director, a Low-to-Moderate Income Solar Loan and Rebate program (Program)*
- 3. Advise the Director on the possibility of working with a community development financial institution or other financial institutions to further the purposes of the Program*
- 4. Advise Director on distribution of moneys in the Fund in the form of loans or rebates*
- 5. Annual reports to the Governor and General Assembly no later than first day of regular session (January 8 , 2020)*



LMI Solar Loan and Rebate Fund

§ 45.1-398 Fund.

- Fund is established in the state treasury; all funds and credited interest are non-reverting (to General Fund);
- Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer upon written request of the Director;
- Funds may be appropriated, or raised via gifts, donations, grants, or bequests;
- May be used solely for purposes of loans or rebates to electric customers meeting requirements of Program established through 45.1-399.



LMI Solar Loan and Rebate Program

§ 45.1-399. Program

- Open to any Virginia resident whose household income is at or below 80 percent of state median income or regional median income, whichever is greater.
- One loan per residence, irrespective of ownership of system; application must be submitted by solar installer or customer's agent within 90 days of completion (after meter is installed and system is energized)
- Any rebate or grant is limited to no more than \$2 per DC watt for up to six kilowatts of capacity installed (\$12,000 maximum)

Application shall include:

- a. 12 months of customer's utility bills prior to installation, and agreement to provide 12 months of utility bills after installation is complete
- b. Agreement to create customer profile and aggregate data for purposes of the Program
- c. Evidence of completed home performance audit, conducted by qualified local weatherization provider, and energy efficiency retrofit that demonstrates retrofit was completed and resulted in reduction in consumption of at least 12 percent
- d. Affidavit attesting to receipt of a public benefit at the time solar energy system is to be installed



Application Review and Approval process

§ 45.1-399.

- Board shall review each application on first-come, first-served basis and make recommendation to Director for approval or denial within 30 days of receipt;
- Director shall review and approve or deny a loan or rebate claim within 60 days of receipt; must provide written explanation to applicant of any denial
- If application is approved Director shall hold reservation of funds for up to 180 days for final loan or rebate claim and disbursement
- Electric Cooperative customers are eligible
- Contractor licensing and certification requirements are detailed; installer must have completed 150 net-metered residential installations in Virginia to qualify
- Customer may use a rebate in addition to any federal tax credits or state incentives for the same system