



COLORADO'S COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDENS

FEBRUARY 2015

Keith Hay
Advisor

Statute - § 40-2-127 C.R.S.



House Bills 10-1342 (2010)

- Applies only to investor owned utilities
- Gardens are 2 MW or less
- 10 subscribers minimum
- Maximum subscription matches on-site RDG
- Counts toward RPS
- Provision for low-income
- 6 MW per year for three years

PUC Rules



- ❑ Proceeding No. R10-674E
- ❑ Decision No. R11-0784
- ❑ Statutory requirement to undertake a rule making to institute solar gardens
- ❑ Solar gardens are part of the Commission's Renewable Energy Rules (4 Code of Colorado Regulations 723-3-3650 through 3668)

Low-income CSG



- Required by statute
- Commission Rules
 - At least five 5 % of renewable energy purchases from new CSGs
 - Certification through Colorado Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)

Solar* Rewards Community



Public Service of Colorado (PSCo) program

- 9 MW in 2012
- 9 MW in 2013
 - 4.5 MW standard offer (10-500 kW)
 - 4.5 MW large RFP offer (500.1 kW-2 MW)
- Currently ~19 solar gardens
- 20 year Performance-based incentive
- Subscribers receive bill credits

PSCo REC Payment

- Two components to REC payment:
- Subscribed energy payment = kWh production x REC price
- Unsubscribed energy payment = kWh production x average hourly incremental cost of energy
- Amounts added equal to total REC payment

PSCo Customer Bills Credit



- Customers receive monthly credit on electric bill
- Credit equal to customer's share of CSG kWh production x Company's total aggregate retail rate – delivery charge
- ~\$.072 for residential customers in 2012

Recent Decisions

- Xcel 2014 RES Plan
- Commission approved acquisition of up to 30 MW per year through the end of 2016



Contact Information



- Email: keith.hay@state.co.us
- Phone: 303-894-2534