SENATE, No. 1924

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN
District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires State to include distributed energy resource in certain new State buildings and consider retrofitting certain existing State buildings with distributed energy resources.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

AN ACT concerning the use of distributed energy resources in certain State buildings and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. a. Any new building having at least 15,000 square feet in total floor area that is to be constructed for the sole use of a State governmental entity after the effective date of this act shall include a distributed energy resource to be utilized when the normal source of electricity is disrupted due to a power outage. The Director of the Division of Property Management and Construction in the Department of the Treasury, in cooperation with the New Jersey Building Authority where appropriate, shall enforce the provisions of this act. All plans, specifications, and bid proposal documents for any building to which the provisions of this section apply shall identify the distributed energy resource to be constructed or utilized by the building. The requirements of this subsection shall be in addition to the requirements of P.L.2007, c.269 (C.52:32-5.3 et seq.).

b. Whenever a State governmental entity prepares a request for proposal for the reconstruction, renovation, repair, or improvement of an existing State building having at least 15,000 square feet in total floor area, the State governmental entity shall consider retrofitting the building with a distributed energy resource and, if feasible, include in its request for proposal a specification that the reconstruction, renovation, repair, or improvement include a distributed energy resource.

c. The requirements of this section shall not apply to any building for which a request for proposal to design, reconstruct, renovate, repair, or improve the building has been issued prior to the effective date of this act.

d. As used in this section:

"Distributed energy resource" means one or more electric power generation, management, or storage technologies, excluding diesel fuel technologies, located at or near the point of energy consumption, which are capable of providing the standard energy needs of a building or structure, or group of buildings or structures, if the normal source of electricity is disrupted due to a power outage.

"State governmental entity" means the same as the term is defined in section 1 of P.L. 2007, c.269 (C.52:32-5.3).

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires any new building having at least 15,000 square feet in total floor area that is to be constructed for the sole use of a State governmental entity to include a distributed energy resource. In addition, the bill requires that when a State governmental entity prepares to reconstruct, renovate, repair, or improve an existing State building having at least 15,000 square feet in total floor area, that the State governmental entity must consider retrofitting the building with a distributed energy resource, and, if feasible, include in its request for proposal a specification that the reconstruction, renovation, repair, or improvement include a distributed energy resource.

A "distributed energy resource" is defined in the bill to mean one or more electric power generation, management, and storage technologies, excluding diesel fuel technologies, located at or near the point of energy consumption, which are capable of providing the standard energy needs of a building or structure if the normal source of electricity is disrupted due to a power outage. Distributed energy resources include microturbines, fuel cells, solar panels, wind turbines, gas-powered reciprocating engines, batteries, flywheels, and combined heat and power systems.

The Director of the Division of Property Management and Construction in the Department of the Treasury, and the New Jersey Building Authority, would be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill. Additionally, all plans, specifications, and bid proposal documents for applicable buildings would have to identify the distributed energy resource to be constructed or utilized by the proposed building. Finally, the requirements of the bill would not apply to any building for which a request for proposal to design, reconstruct, renovate, repair, or improve the building has been issued prior to the effective date of the bill, and are in addition to other statutory requirements that require State buildings to be designed and managed to meet standards for a high performance green building.