



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

CB 119516

Record No.: CB 119516

Type: Ordinance (Ord)

Status: Passed

Version: 2

Ord. no: Ord 125903

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 04/02/2019

Final Action: 09/06/2019

Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; authorizing a large solar program for customers with solar photovoltaic systems sized larger than 100 kilowatts and not greater than two megawatts; and adding a new Section 21.49.083 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

Notes:	<u>Date</u>
Sponsors: Mosqueda	Filed with City Clerk:
	Mayor's Signature:
	Vetoed by Mayor:
	Veto Overridden:
	Veto Sustained:

Attachments:
Drafter: Alan.Matthews@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File **Legal Notice Published:** Yes No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Mayor	04/30/2019	Mayor's leg transmitted to Council	City Clerk			
1	City Clerk	04/30/2019	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
	Notes:						
1	Council President's Office	05/02/2019	sent for review	Housing, Health, Energy, and Workers' Rights Committee			
	Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review. to the Housing, Health, Energy, and Workers' Rights Committee						
	Notes:						

- 1 City Council 05/13/2019 referred Housing, Health, Energy, and Workers' Rights Committee
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was referred. to the Housing, Health, Energy, and Workers' Rights Committee
- 1 Housing, Health, Energy, and Workers' Rights Committee 08/15/2019 pass as amended 09/03/2019 Pass
Action Text: The Committee recommends that City Council pass as amended the Council Bill (CB).
In Favor: 2 Chair Mosqueda, Member Bagshaw
Opposed: 0
- 1 City Council 09/03/2019 passed as amended Pass
Action Text: The Motion carried, the Council Bill (CB) was passed as amended by the following vote, and the President signed the Bill:
Notes: *Councilmember Harrell left the Council Chamber at 3:24 p.m.*

Councilmember Harrell entered the Council Chamber at 3:25 p.m.

ACTION 1:

Motion was made by Councilmember Mosqueda, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill 119516, by substituting version 6 for version 1a.

ACTION 2:

Motion was made and duly seconded to pass Council Bill 119516 as amended.

In Favor: 9 Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember González , Council President Harrell, Councilmember Herbold, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember Mosqueda, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Pacheco, Councilmember Sawant
Opposed: 0

- 2 City Clerk 09/06/2019 submitted for Mayor
Mayor's signature
- 2 Mayor 09/06/2019 Signed
- 2 Mayor 09/06/2019 returned City Clerk
- 2 City Clerk 09/06/2019 attested by City Clerk
Action Text: The Ordinance (Ord) was attested by City Clerk.
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CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE

125903

COUNCIL BILL

119516

AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; authorizing a large solar program for customers with solar photovoltaic systems sized larger than 100 kilowatts and not greater than two megawatts; and adding a new Section 21.49.083 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, solar technology is decreasing in cost, leading to growing customer interest in installing large solar arrays on commercial facilities; and

WHEREAS, solar energy is an integral piece of Seattle's Climate Action Plan, including the Living Building and 2030 Challenge Pilots; and

WHEREAS, customers with large solar photovoltaic (PV) systems do not qualify for net metering per SMC 21.49.082 and RCW 80.60.020; and

WHEREAS, the City Light Department of The City of Seattle (City Light) would like to offer a policy path to customers wishing to install large PV arrays; and

WHEREAS, similar to its approach to energy efficiency programs, City Light seeks to encourage customers to install PV systems sized to offset their building's own use, thereby minimizing financial impacts for other customers; and

WHEREAS, City Light seeks to compensate customers exporting electricity to the grid at a fair value based on the aggregate benefits this electricity provides to all customers; and

WHEREAS, City Light has general authority to enter into agreements for the acquisition of energy NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new Section 21.49.083 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code as follows:

21.49.083 Large Solar Program

1 A. The Large Solar Program shall be open to customers operating solar photovoltaic
2 (PV) arrays sized larger than one hundred kilowatts and not greater than two megawatts,
3 measured as alternating current (AC). To be eligible for the program, a PV array must be
4 connected to a customer premises located within the Department's service territory and be
5 equipped with a two-way advanced meter capable of measuring both consumption and outbound
6 power exports.

7 B. To participate, customers must enter into an interconnection agreement with the
8 Department and to comply with all its terms. The Department may adopt any interconnection
9 requirements as necessary to protect public safety and system reliability.

10 C. Large solar program customers shall be metered, billed, and credited according to
11 the following provisions:

12 1. The customer's two-way advanced meter will measure accumulated kilowatt
13 hours of inbound retail consumption and outbound exported power.

14 2. Any electricity produced by the customer's solar PV array may be used to reduce
15 inbound retail electricity consumption at the customer's rate schedule for electric service.

16 3. Electricity generated in excess of that consumed by the customer may be exported
17 to the Department's system. Accumulated kilowatt-hours of exported electricity shall be
18 measured by the advanced meter and each customer will be credited for exported electricity
19 according to the same Large Customer Solar Export Rate, which reflects the value of the power
20 and grid benefits. The rate for all customers will be the same according to the effective date
21 provided in Section 21.49.083, regardless of the beginning date of the interconnection agreement
22 between the Department and the customer and may be updated over time, but will initially be set
23 as the following:

1 **Large Customer Solar Export Rate**

2

	Effective April 1, 2019	Effective January 1, 2020
Export Credit cents per kWh	3.51	3.16

3

4 4. The customer shall retain ownership of all environmental, social, and other non-
5 power attributes of the electricity produced by their PV system, irrespective of whether it is
6 consumed on-site or exported.

7 5. Customers totalizing multiple meters per Section 21.49.090 may integrate their
8 PV array into their totalized service. Otherwise, meter aggregation across multiple customer
9 premises shall not be permitted.

10 6. Customers that permit and complete buildings under the terms of the Living
11 Building Pilot outlined in SMC 23.40.060, or receive Living Building Challenge certification for
12 a building within City Light service areas outside of the City of Seattle before December 31,
13 2025 will receive annual net metering as described in SMC 21.49.082. The maximum solar array
14 allowed under this provision is 250 kW. Affordable housing performing under high energy
15 efficiency standards can be considered for a higher net metered threshold on a case by case basis.

16 7. The program will remain open for eligible customers until at least December 31,
17 2021. Until December 31, 2035, the Department will honor the terms of the large solar program
18 for interconnected participants and guarantee an annual export rate of at least 1.8 cents per kWh.

19 Section 2. City Light shall provide a yearly evaluation and report on program
20 performance to City Council by August 31, 2020 and August 31, 2021. The reports shall be
21 submitted in writing to the member of the Housing, Health, Energy, and Workers' Rights

1 committee, or successor committee, The August 31, 2020 report shall include preliminary
2 recommendations for any program modifications to continue the program beyond December 31,
3 2021. The August 31, 2021 report shall include final recommendations.

4 Section 3. City Light shall convene labor, housing, energy and environmental advocacy,
5 and industry stakeholders to participate in the evaluation of the program and development of
6 recommendations described in Section 2 of this Ordinance. City Light shall engage the
7 stakeholders to consider and evaluate:

8 A. Ways to advance labor standards through the program.

9 B. Impacts to housing affordability and participation of affordable housing providers in
10 the program.

11 C. Alignment of the program with Seattle's climate goals.

12 D. Impacts of new technology or emerging policy changes that affect the program.

13 E. Applicability of other green building certifications as eligibility for net-metering.
14

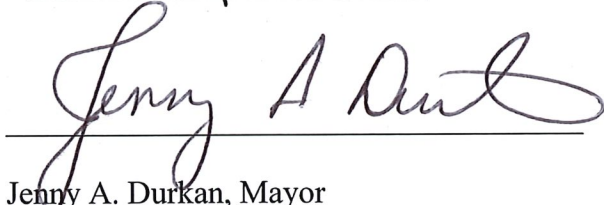
1 Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 60 days after its approval by
2 the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it
3 shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

4 Passed by the City Council the 3rd day of September, 2019,
5 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 3rd day of
6 September, 2019.


7 

8 President _____ of the City Council

9 Approved by me this 6th day of September, 2019.

10 
11 Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

12 Filed by me this 6th day of September, 2019.

13 
14 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

15 (Seal)

